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BEFORE THE ARIZONA GORPORATION COMMISSION 2 P 4: 59

WILLIAM A. MUNDELL
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JIM IRVIN
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MARC SPITZER Commissioner AUG 2 2 2002

Arizona Corporation Commission

AZ CORP COMMISSION DOCUMENT CONTROL



6 IN THE MATTER OF THE GENERIC PROCEEDINGS CONCERNING ELECTRIC RESTRUCTURING

IN THE MATTER OF ARIZONA PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY'S REQUEST FOR VARIANCE OF CERTAIN

REQUIREMENTS OF A.A.C. 4-14-2-1606

IN THE MATTER OF THE GENERIC

PROCEEDINGS CONCERNING THE ARIZONA INDEPENDENT SCHEDULING ADMINISTRATOR

IN THE MATTER OF TUCSON ELECTRIC COMPANY'S APPLICATION FOR A VARIANCE OF CERTAIN

ELECTRIC POWER COMPETITION
RULES COMPLIANCE DATES

DOCKET NO. E-00000A-02-0051

DOCKET NO. E-01345A-01-0822

DOCKET NO. E-00000A-01-0630

E-00000A-02-0051 E-01345A-01-0822 E-00000A-01-0630 E-01933A-02-0069 E-01933A-98-0471

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THE ARIZONA COMPETITIVE POWER ALLIANCE'S NOTICE OF SUPPLEMENTAL DISCLOSURE

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<u>INTRODUCTION</u>

The Arizona Competitive Power Alliance (the "Alliance")¹ hereby files this Notice of Supplemental Disclosure in the above-referenced dockets. In her Recommended Opinion and Order, ALJ Farmer correctly concludes that the transfer of Pinnacle West Energy Corporation ("PWEC") assets to Arizona Public Service ("APS") is beyond the scope of Track A.² However,

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¹ The members of the Alliance are: AES New Energy, Allegheny Energy Supply, Calpine, Duke Energy North America, LLC, Gila Bend Power Partners LLC, Mirant Americas, Inc., Panda Energy International, Inc./TECO Power Services Corporation, PG&E National Energy Group, PPL Montana, LLC, Reliant Energy, Sempra Energy Resources and Southwestern Power Group II, LLC. This pleading expresses the consensus position of the Alliance. Each individual member of the Alliance reserves the right to assert a different position.

² Recommended Opinion and Order – Track A at 25

PWEC and APS have persisted in trying to insert that issue into Track A. Such persistence, in turn, has occasioned this filing. As more fully described below, these documents are submitted to provide the Commission with a variety of publicly available documents which clearly contradict certain of APS's representations regarding its unregulated Affiliate's generating facilities, particularly APS's most recent representation in its Exceptions to the Recommended Opinion and Order which asserts that the PWEC generation assets are "Reliability Assets" built principally to serve APS's customers, as well as APS's related inference that these assets therefore should be includable in rate base should the proposed divestiture not occur. Specifically, APS's Exceptions rely upon a letter from William Post, Chairman of Pinnacle West Capital Corporation ("PWCC"), to support APS's assertion that the Redhawk and West Phoenix facilities were constructed to meet APS's reliability needs. Mr. Post was not a witness for APS in the Track A Hearing and his letter was docketed after the close of the hearing, making his assertion beyond challenge through cross-examination. APS has recently made similar assertions in other forums before the Commission, e.g., the Biennial Transmission Assessment and Track B workshops³.

The attached documents, however, which include statements by PWCC as to its intention in constructing these unregulated facilities, as well as reports by rating agencies based on information supplied by PWCC, contradict APS's recent assertions and unequivocally demonstrate that development of the Redhawk and West Phoenix facilities was undertaken by PWCC as part of a strategy to participate in the wholesale merchant energy market, and not specifically to satisfy APS's customer needs. The Commission should therefore reject APS's post hoc efforts to recast its unregulated Affiliate's generation assets as having been solely constructed to reliably serve APS's customers.

³ APS continued this theme in its August 20, 2002 letter from Donald Robinson to Commissioner Jim Irvin in which APS responds to a request to list APS generation plants. Mr. Robinson's letter includes as "Exhibit 1 – APS generation plants, their locations, ages, fuel sources, maximum output and primary uses." Listed among the plants on Exhibit 1 are the Redhawk and West Phoenix plants. While a column in the Exhibit notes the ownership of facilities as lying in PWEC, by listing the units at all, the letter continues APS's attempts to blur the corporate distinction between the two entities when it comes to the PWEC merchant generation facilities.

DISCUSSION

Although APS did not introduce a single document during the Track "A" hearing to support its contentions that the PWEC assets were built principally to serve APS's customers, it has persisted (especially most recently) in asserting that those generation assets are necessary to reliably serve APS's customers. Indeed APS's assertions have grown stronger in each successive pleading. APS initially claimed that "over \$1 billion of 'steel and concrete' [had been] invested to preserve APS system reliability." During the Track "A" hearing, Mr. Davis testified to "PWEC's initiation of over \$1 billion dollars [sic] in new generation construction to serve APS retail customers." In its post-hearing brief, APS describes the "investment by PWEC of over a billion dollars in assets built to provide reliable service to APS customers," which it later titles the "PWEC reliability-based investments." And, most recently, in its Brief on Exceptions, APS claims "PWEC has invested over a billion dollars in generation needed to reliably serve APS customers... [which] would have [been] built by APS rather than PWEC...."

For the reasons set forth below, we respectfully submit that the Commission should not rely on these unsubstantiated and self-serving statements. Rather, PWCC's and PWEC's public statements, made from the time the projects were announced, would provide the Commission with a much better picture as to why PWEC constructed nearly 2,000 MW of merchant generation.

Before the Arizona Power Plant and Transmission Line Siting Committee ("Siting Committee"), PWCC clearly stated its intent to develop the Redhawk facility as a merchant plant in the proceedings for its Certificate of Environmental Compliance ("CEC"). In that hearing, the following exchange occurred:

Q. (Steve Wheeler, counsel for Pinnacle West Energy Corp.) What specific authority is being requested from the Siting Committee in

⁴ Request of Arizona Public Service Company for a Partial Variance at 6, Exhibit S-1 to the Track A Hearing.

⁵ Direct Testimony of Jack E. Davis at 7; Exhibit APS-1 to the Track A Hearing.

⁶ APS Post-Hearing Brief at 4-5.

⁷ Exceptions of Arizona Public Service Company to the Recommended Opinion and Order on "Track A" Issues.

this application?

A. (Ed Fox PWCC Vice President for Communications, Environment and Safety) We are requesting that the Siting Committee grant a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility for the construction of four 530 MW combined cycle natural gas fired generating units in western Maricopa County.

I want to provide a quick overview of the project. These facilities will be merchant plants. They truly will be in the competitive market. They will sell energy or not depending on their ability to sell at a price that can get into the market, and as such, the risk for the generation in selling that generation will be with Pinnacle West Energy.

It is intended to provide the need of the expanding, not just the Phoenix market, but also the general market in the southwest which continues to grow. And we've heard a lot of testimony on the need for new generation in both Maricopa County in Arizona and the southwest, and this site was selected in part to meet that need.⁸

Likewise, PWCC clearly stated its intent to develop the West Phoenix facility as a merchant plant in the proceedings for its CEC before the Siting Committee, where the following exchange occurred:

THE WITNESS: Thank you, Sir.

Let me start over. Pinnacle West Energy requests that the Commission grant it a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility for the construction of two combined cycle natural gas-fired generating units here in Phoenix, Arizona. Unit 1 that we call unit combined cycle four, CC4, will be 120 megawatts, and CC5, which will be 530 megawatts.

Q. (BY MR. WHEELER) Will these be dedicated units? And by that I mean, will the output be sold to one particular customer in the contract?

A. No, they won't. As I explained earlier, as the utility industry moves in the competitive marketplace, part of that competitive marketplace is in the generation of electricity itself. And these facilities will be merchant plants that will be selling into the wholesale market. In this regard, and being part, selling into the wholesale market, the competitive market, being an unregulated

⁸ Pinnacle West Energy, L-00000J-99-0095, December 9, 1999, CEC Transcript at 177-78, relevant excerpts attached hereto as Exhibit Alliance-1.

subsidiary of Pinnacle West Capital Corporation, the ratepayers will not be at risk for this venture and for this expansion.

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PWCC's intent to operate the PWEC generation as merchant facilities in the wholesale market was further expressed in articles noting the Commission's granting of CECs to PWEC's Redhawk and West Phoenix facilities. The articles noted that PWCC had stated that the certificates "significantly advance development of the projects, which are to sell into the deregulated power markets of the western U.S., including California, Arizona and New Mexico." ¹⁰

Finally, in March 2000, PWCC further clarified that the Redhawk unit was intended as a merchant facility when it announced that it had entered into a joint development agreement with Reliant Energy Power Generation, Inc. under which Reliant and PWCC would share "construction and operation of three merchant power plants in Arizona and Nevada" including the planned Redhawk facility. In describing the Joint Development Agreement, Mr. Post stated that the Nevada projects and the Redhawk facility "will allow us to meet increasing demands for power across the Southwest and at the same time promote a competitive market that will ultimately benefit consumers. . . . We intend to create a robust generation business that helps ensure a reliable supply of electricity in the West." The same article quoted Bill Stewart, PWEC's President, as stating:

> We intend to offer competitively priced electricity in growing Southwest markets by producing low-cost energy that is accessible to key transmission hubs . . . These projects are part of our overall growth strategy that will keep us near the top of western power producers. This partnership is a demonstration of our oft-stated goal of being a broad-based supplier for power markets in the West, where we have extensive business experience and market knowledge. 13

⁹ Pinnacle West Energy, L-00000J-99-92, November 19, 1999, CEC Transcript at 16-17, relevant excerpts attached hereto as Exhibit Alliance-2.

¹⁰ Utility Environment Report, February 25, 2000, attached as Exhibit Alliance-3; Power Markets Week, February 28, 2000, attached as Exhibit Alliance-4.

¹¹ PR Newswire, March 13, 2000, attached as Exhibit Alliance-5.

¹² Megawatt Daily, March 14, 2000, attached as Exhibit Alliance-6.

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PWCC likewise acknowledged that West Phoenix was intended to be a merchant plant when it originally announced its West Phoenix project in early 1999, before the settlement agreement with APS was signed. According to the May 3, 1999, issue of Power Markets Week "once the units are in operation, PWG plans to sell the power into the wholesale market" and quotes a Pinnacle West spokesperson as stating:

The buyer could be Arizona Public Service or Salt River Project, or any other provider active in the market.¹⁴

The article also noted that the new generation affiliate would be active throughout the "Western States [sic] Coordinating Counsel, focusing on projects in Arizona, California, Colorado, Nevada, Utah and the Pacific Northwest."¹⁵

Likewise, in describing the planned development of the Redhawk facility, a September 29, 1999, article in Business Wire stated that "the plant will compete in deregulated energy markets of Arizona, California and other western states and will be operated by Pinnacle West Energy, the new Pinnacle West generating entity that was formed earlier this week." The article went on to quote PWEC's President Bill Stewart as saying:

We intend to be a vigorous player in these competitive generation markets . . . We have a strong record of low-cost, efficient plant operation. We can best serve the public and our shareholders by pursuing these developing markets, particularly in Arizona and the Southwest. ¹⁶

The Exhibits referenced above make it clear that APS's "reliability-based" investment position is a recent assertion designed to support its revised regulatory strategy. So much is clear from the attached stock rating agency reports that describe individual meetings with PWCC's management, ¹⁷ and further highlight PWCC's "regional strategy" to become a "major" player in

¹⁴ Power Markets Week Article attached as Exhibit Alliance-7.

¹⁵ <u>Id. See also</u> April 30, 1999, Global Power Report stating that Pinnacle West planned to build plants in each of the WSCC states, attached as Exhibit Alliance-8.

¹⁶ September 29, 1999, Business Wire attached as Exhibit Alliance-9.

¹⁷ "Management is shareholder-oriented and has a focused strategy in a focused market." Merrill Lynch, January 19, 2001. <u>Pinnacle West: Deregulated Generation in the West</u>, attached as Exhibit Alliance-10.

the Southwestern regional wholesale generation market:

Pinnacle is focused on becoming a major energy provider to the western markets and plans to leverage its knowledge of the region to maximize market opportunities. 18

PNW {Pinnacle West Capital Corp.} is positioning itself as a major player in the Southwest Region with nearly 3,300 MW of generation capacity under construction. The company will maintain a competitive advantage over other utilities in the region with the additional capacity combined with transmission access to the entire Western US. 19

Strategically, management is focused on completing a spin down of the utility generating assets - roughly 4,000 MW of coal, gas/oil and nuclear capacity - to an unregulated unit. The goal is to get the deal done before changes at the ACC, the state regulators, in 2002. With decent margins on native load and leverage to the West Coast markets a separation from the regulatory overhang should bring better margins.²⁰

Finally, the reports also reveal that in April 2001, Pinnacle West was advising financial houses that it "expects to finance its [generation] expenditures through internally generated cash, construction revolvers, note issuances by the parent company and Pinnacle West Energy, and taxexempt debt transferred from the utility to Pinnacle West Energy."²¹ Hence, these statements belie any assertion by APS as to the need for permanent financing for its affiliate or its assertion regarding the harmful financial consequences to its affiliates, PWCC and PWEC, neither of which are parties to these proceedings, should the divestiture not commence and its affiliate's proposed PPA be rejected.²² Indeed, the financial reports show quite clearly that the financial

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¹⁸ Credit Suisse First Boston, April 16, 2001. Pinnacle West Corporation, attached as Exhibit Alliance-11.

¹⁹ UBS Warburg, April 12, 2001. Research Note, attached as Exhibit Alliance-12.

²⁰ Morgan Stanley Dean Witter, April 16, 2001. On The High Road to California attached as Exhibit Alliance-13.

²¹ Exhibit Alliance-11 at 3

²² The importance of the proposed affiliate PPA to the PWCC financial strategy is reflected by the October 22, 2001, Lehman Brothers report noting that the proposed PPA appears favorable for PW Energy and PWMT as it would provide price stability and marketing opportunities to the companies existing MWs and MWs under construction. Specifically, the PPA pricing would appear to be an attractive price for new gas fired generation that could produce healthy ROE's if true equity invested is more in line with 25%-35% of capital." Exhibit Alliance-14 at 3. [Lehman Brothers report] The October 22, 2001, Lehman Brothers report was issued concurrent with APS's October 2001 variance request. [The request was made on 10/18/01.] Similarly, an April 17, 2001, Merrill Lynch report indicates

consequences facing PWCC are the result of a business and regulatory strategy gone wrong rather than reliance on the Commission.

CONCLUSION AND REQUESTED RELIEF

At no time has APS ever produced a single contemporaneous document in support of its post-hearing assertions that Redhawk and West Phoenix were built principally to serve APS's Standard Offer customers. Indeed, neither Mr. Post's recent letter, which was filed after the hearing concluded, nor APS's reliance on that letter are in any way supported by any contemporaneous evidence adduced during the Track "A" hearing. The Alliance requests, therefore, that the Commission either accept the attached Supplemental Information, which does provide contemporaneous evidence of PWCC's intent at the time it developed its merchant generation, or strike the Post²³ letter entirely from this docket and prohibit APS or any party from relying on the representations contained therein and repeated by APS.

ARIZONA COMPETITIVE POWER ALLIANCE

1332996.1/73262.005

By: Greg Patterson

that Pinnacle West told Merrill Lynch that it intended to "take a new proposal to the AZ regulators around the middle of this year. . . . By doing this now, PNW clearly hopes to pre-empt upcoming (2002) political and regulatory changes and to reduce the likelihood of future backlash against current deregulation plans." Exhibit Alliance-15 at 2.

And any other letter or pleading making similar unfounded assertions regarding the intent of PWCC in constructing Redhawk or West Phoenix.

ORIGINAL +16 copies of the foregoing filed this day of _______, 2002, with:

Docket Control
ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION
1200 West Washington
Phoenix, Arizona

COPY hand delivered this day to:

CHAIRMAN WILLIAM MUNDELL Arizona Corporation Commission 1200 W. Washington St. Phoenix, AZ 85007

COMMISSIONER JIM IRVIN Arizona Corporation Commission 1200 W. Washington St. Phoenix, AZ 85007

COMMISSIONER MARC SPITZER Arizona Corporation Commission 1200 W. Washington St. Phoenix, AZ 85007

HERCULES DELLAS, AIDE TO CHAIRMAN MUNDELL
Arizona Corporation Commission
1200 W. Washington St.
Phoenix, AZ 85007

KEVIN BARLAY, AIDE TO COMMISSIONER IRVIN Arizona Corporation Commission 1200 W. Washington St. Phoenix, AZ 85007

PAUL WALKER, AIDE TO COMMISSIONER SPITZER Arizona Corporation Commission 1200 W. Washington St. Phoenix, AZ 85007

Lyn Farmer
Chief Administrative Law Judge
ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION
1200 W. Washington Street
Phoenix, Arizona 85007

Christopher Kempley, Chief Counsel ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION

1200 W. Washington Street Phoenix, Arizona 85007

Ernest G. Johnson, Utilities Division ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION 1200 West Washington Street Phoenix, Arizona 85007

COPY MAILED/E-MAILED* this day of Jugust, 2002, to:

Lindy Funkhouser Scott S. Wakefield RUCO 2828 N Central Ave, Suite 1200 Phoenix, Arizona 85004

*Michael A. Curtis

*William P. Sullivan

*Paul R. Michaud

MARTINEZ & CURTIS, P.C.

2712 North 7th Street

Phoenix, Arizona 85006

Attorneys for Arizona Municipal Power Users

Association, Mohave Electric Cooperative, Inc.,

Navopache Electric Cooperative, Inc., & Primesouth, Inc.

mcurtis401@aol.com

wsullivan@martinezcurtis.com

Walter W. Meek, President ARIZONA UTILITY INVESTORS ASSOCIATION 2100 N. Central Avenue, Suite 210 Phoenix, Arizona 85004

Rick Gilliam
Eric C. Guidry
LAND AND WATER FUND OF THE ROCKIES
ENERGY PROJECT
2260 Baseline Road, Suite 200
Boulder, Colorado 80302

Terry Frothun ARIZONA STATE AFL-CIO 5818 N. 7th Street, Suite 200 Phoenix, Arizona 85014-5811

pmichaud@martinezcurtis.com

Norman J. Furuta DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY 900 Commodore Drive, Building 107 San Bruno, California 94066-5006

1285855.3/73262.005

Barbara S. Bush COALITION FOR RESPONSIBLE ENERGY EDUCATION 315 West Riviera Drive Tempe, Arizona 85252

Sam Defraw (Attn. Code 00I)
Rate Intervention Division
NAVAL FACILITIES ENGINEERING COMMAND
Building 212, 4th Floor
901 M Street, SE
Washington, DC 20374-5018

Rick Lavis ARIZONA COTTON GROWERS ASSOCIATION 4139 East Broadway Road Phoenix, Arizona 85040

Steve Brittle
DON'T WASTE ARIZONA, INC.
6205 South 12th Street
Phoenix, Arizona 85040

COLUMBUS ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC. P.O. Box 631
Deming, New Mexico 88031

CONTINENTAL DIVIDE ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE P.O. Box 1087 Grants, New Mexico 87020

DIXIE ESCALANTE RURAL ELECTRIC ASSOCIATION CR Box 95 Beryl, Utah 84714

GARKANE POWER ASSOCIATION, INC. P.O. Box 790 Richfield, Utah 84701

ARIZONA DEPT OF COMMERCE ENERGY OFFICE 3800 North Central Avenue, 12th Floor Phoenix, Arizona 85012

ARIZONA COMMUNITY ACTION ASSOC. 2627 N. 3rd Street, Suite 2 Phoenix, Arizona 85004

TUCSON ELECTRIC POWER CO. Legal Dept – DB203 220 W 6th Street 1285855.3/73262.005 P.O. Box 711 Tucson, Arizona 85702-0711

A.B. Baardson NORDIC POWER 6463 N. Desert Breeze Ct. Tucson, Arizona 85750-0846

Jessica Youle
PAB300
SALT RIVER PROJECT
P.O. Box 52025
Phoenix, Arizona 85072-2025

Joe Eichelberger MAGMA COPPER COMPANY P.O. Box 37 Superior, Arizona 85273

Craig Marks CITIZENS UTILITIES COMPANY 2901 N. Central Avenue, Suite 1660 Phoenix, Arizona 85012-2736

Barry Huddleston DESTEC ENERGY P.O. Box 4411 Houston, Texas 77210-4411

Steve Montgomery JOHNSON CONTROLS 2032 West 4th Street Tempe, Arizona 85281

Peter Glaser Shook, Hardy & Bacon, L.L.P. 600 14th Street, N.W., Suite 800 Washington, D.C. 20006-2004

Larry McGraw USDA-RUS 6266 Weeping Willow Rio Rancho, New Mexico 87124

Jim Driscoll ARIZONA CITIZEN ACTION 5160 E. Bellevue Street, Apt. 101 Tucson, AZ 85712-4828

William Baker ELECTRICAL DISTRICT NO. 6 7310 N. 16th Street, Suite 320 Phoenix, Arizona 85020 Robert Julian PPG 1500 Merrell Lane Belgrade, Montana 59714

Robert S. Lynch 340 E. Palm Lane, Suite 140 Phoenix, Arizona 85004-4529 Attorney for Arizona Transmission Dependent Utility Group

K.R. Saline K.R. SALINE & ASSOCIATES Consulting Engineers 160 N. Pasadena, Suite 101 Mesa, Arizona 85201-6764

Carl Robert Aron Executive Vice President and COO ITRON, INC. 2818 N. Sullivan Road Spokane, Washington 99216

Douglas Nelson DOUGLAS C. NELSON PC 7000 N. 16th Street, Suite 120-307 Phoenix, Arizona 85020-5547 Attorney for Calpine Power Services

*Lawrence V. Robertson Jr.
MUNGER CHADWICK, PLC
333 North Wilmot, Suite 300
Tucson, Arizona 85711-2634
Attorney for Southwestern Power Group, II, LLC;
Bowie Power Station, LLC; Toltec Power Station,
LLC; and Sempra Energy Resources
Lvrobertson@mungerchadwick.com

*Tom Wran Southwestern Power Group II <u>Twray@southwesternpower.com</u>

*Theodore E. Roberts SEMPRA ENERGY RESOURCES 101 Ash Street, HQ 12-B San Diego, California 92101-3017 Troberts@sempra.com

Albert Sterman ARIZONA CONSUMERS COUNCIL 2849 East 8th Street Tucson, Arizona 85716 1285855.3/73262.005 *Michael Grant
GALLAGHER & KENNEDY
2575 East Camelback Road
Phoenix, Arizona 85016-9225
Attorneys for AEPCO, Graham County Electric
Cooperative, and Duncan Valley Electric
Cooperative.

Mmg@gknet.com

Vinnie Hunt CITY OF TUCSON Department of Operations 4004 S. Park Avenue, Building #2 Tucson, Arizona 85714

Ryle J. Carl III INTERNATION BROTHERHOOD OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS, L.U. #1116 750 S. Tucson Blvd. Tucson, Arizona 85716-5698

Carl Dabelstein CITIZENS COMMUNICATIONS 2901 N. Central Ave., Suite 1660 Phoenix, Arizona 85012

Roderick G. McDougall, City Attorney CITY OF PHOENIX Attn: Jesse Sears, Assistant Chief Counsel 200 W Washington Street, Suite 1300 Phoenix, Arizona 85003-1611

*William J. Murphy CITY OF PHOENIX 200 West Washington Street, Suite 1400 Phoenix, Arizona 85003-1611 Bill.murphy@phoenix.gov

*Russell E. Jones
WATERFALL ECONOMIDIS CALDWELL
HANSHAW & VILLAMANA, P.C.
5210 E. Williams Circle, Suite 800
Tucson, Arizona 85711
Attorneys for Trico Electric Cooperative, Inc.
Riones@wechv.com

*Christopher Hitchcock
HITCHCOCK & HICKS
P.O. Box 87
Bisbee, Arizona 85603-0087
Attorney for Sulphur Springs Valley
Electric Cooperative, Inc.

Lawyers@bisbeelaw.com

Andrew Bettwy
Debra Jacobson
SOUTHWEST GAS CORPORATION
5241 Spring Mountain Road
Las Vegas, Nevada 89150-0001

Barbara R. Goldberg
OFFICE OF THE CITY ATTORNEY
3939 Civic Center Blvd.
Scottsdale, Arizona 85251

Bradford A. Borman PACIFICORP 201 S. Main, Suite 2000 Salt Lake City, Utah 84140

Timothy M. Hogan ARIZONA CENTER FOR LAW IN THE PUBLIC INTEREST 202 E. McDowell Rd., Suite 153 Phoenix, Arizona 85004

Marcia Weeks 18970 N. 116th Lane Surprise, Arizona 85374

John T. Travers William H. Nau 272 Market Square, Suite 2724 Lake Forest, Illinois 60045

Timothy Michael Toy WINTHROP, STIMSON, PUTNAM & ROBERTS One Battery Park Plaza New York, New York 10004-1490

*Raymond S. Heyman Michael W. Patten ROSHKA HEYMAN & DEWULF, PLC 400 E. Van Buren, Suite 800 Phoenix, Arizona 85004 Attorneys for Tucson Electric Power Co. Rheyman@rhd-law.com

Billie Dean AVIDD P O Box 97 Marana, Arizona 85652-0987 Raymond B. Wuslich WINSTON & STRAWN 1400 L Street, NW 1285855.3/73262.005 Washington, DC 20005

Steven C. Gross
PORTER SIMON
40200 Truckee Airport Road
Truckee, California 96161-3307
Attorneys for M-S-R Public Power Agency

Donald R. Allen John P. Coyle DUNCAN & ALLEN 1575 Eye Street, N.W.,, Suite 300 Washington, DC 20005

Ward Camp PHASER ADVANCED METERING SERVICES 400 Gold SW, Suite 1200 Albuquerque, New Mexico 87102

Theresa Drake IDAHO POWER COMPANY P.O. Box 70 Boise, Idaho 83707

Libby Brydolf CALIFORNIA ENERGY MARKETS NEWSLETTER 2419 Bancroft Street San Diego, California 92104

Paul W. Taylor R W BECK 14635 N. Kierland Blvd., Suite 130 Scottsdale, AZ 85254-2769

James P. Barlett 5333 N. 7th Street, Suite B-215 Phoenix, Arizona 85014 Attorney for Arizona Power Authority

*Jay I. Moyes
MOYES STOREY
3003 N. Central Ave., Suite 1250
Phoenix, Arizona 85012
Attorneys for PPL Southwest Generation Holdings,
LLC; PPL EnergyPlus, LLC and PPL Sundance
Energy, LLC
Jimoyes@lawms.com

Stephen L. Teichler Stephanie A. Conaghan DUANE MORRIS & HECKSCHER, LLP 1667 K Street NW, Suite 700 Washington, DC 20006

Kathy T. Puckett SHELL OIL COMPANY 200 N. Dairy Ashford Houston, Texas 77079

Peter Q. Nyce, Jr.
DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
JALS-RS Suite 713
901 N. Stuart Street
Arlington, Virginia 22203-1837

Michelle Ahlmer ARIZONA RETAILERS ASSOCIATION 224 W. 2nd Street Mesa, Arizona 85201-6504

Dan Neidlinger NEIDLINGER & ASSOCIATES 3020 N. 17th Drive Phoenix, Arizona 85015

Chuck Garcia PNM, Law Department Alvardo Square, MS 0806 Albuquerque, New Mexico 87158

Sanford J. Asman 570 Vinington Court Dunwoody, Georgia 30350-5710 *Patricia Cooper AEPCO/SSWEPCO P.O. Box 670 Benson, Arizona 85602 <u>Pcooper@aepnet.org</u>

Holly E. Chastain SCHLUMBERGER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT SERVICES, INC. 5430 Metric Place Norcross, Georgia 30092-2550

Leslie Lawner
ENRON CORP
712 North Lea
Roswell, New Mexico 88201

Alan Watts Southern California Public Power Agency 529 Hilda Court Anaheim, California 92806

1285855.3/73262.005

Frederick M. Bloom Commonwealth Energy Corporation 15991 Red Hill Avenue, Suite 201 Tustin, California 92780

Margaret McConnell Maricopa Community Colleges 2411 W. 14th Street Tempe, Arizona 85281-6942

Brian Soth FIRSTPOINT SERVICES, INC. 1001 S.W. 5th Ave, Suite 500 Portland, Oregon 92704

Jay Kaprosy PHOENIX CHAMBER OF COMMERCE 201 N. Central Ave., 27th Floor Phoenix, Arizona 85073

Kevin McSpadden MILBANK, TWEED, HADLEY AND MCCLOY, LLP 601 S. Figueroa, 30th Floor Los Angeles, California 90017

M.C. Arendes, Jr. C3 COMMUNICATIONS, INC. 2600 Via Fortuna, Suite 500 Austin, Texas 78746

*Patrick J. Sanderson ARIZONA INDEPENDENT SCHEDULING ADMINISTRATOR ASSOCIATION P.O. Box 6277 Phoenix, Arizona 85005-6277 Psanderson@az-isa.org

*Roger K. Ferland QUARLES & BRADY STREICH LANG, L.L.P. Renaissance One Two North Central Avenue Phoenix, Arizona 85004-2391 <u>Rferland@quarles.com</u>

Charles T. Stevens
ARIZONANS FOR ELECTRIC CHOICE &
COMPETITION
245 W. Roosevelt
Phoenix, Arizona 85003

Mark Sirois
ARIZONA COMMUNITY ACTION ASSOC.

2627 N. Third Street, Suite 2 Phoenix, Arizona 85004

*Jeffrey Guldner
Jeff Guldner, Esq.
SNELL & WILMER
400 E. Van Buren,
One Arizona Center
Phoenix, Arizona 85004-0001
jguldner@swlaw.com

Steven J. Duffy RIDGE & ISAACSON PC 3101 N. Central Avenue, Suite 740 Phoenix, Arizona 85012

*Greg Patterson 5432 E. Avalon Phoenix, Arizona 85018 Gpatterson@aol.com

*John Wallace Grand Canyon State Electric Co-op 120 N. 44th Street, Suite 100 Phoenix, Arizona 85034-1822 Jwallace@gcseca.org

Steven Lavigne DUKE ENERGY 4 Triad Center, Suite 1000 Salt Lake City, Utah 84180

Dennis L. Delaney K.R. SALINE & ASSOC. 160 N. Pasadena, Suite 101 Mesa, Arizona 85201-6764

Thomas L. Mumaw, Esq.
Senior Attorney
Pinnacle West Capital Corporation
P. O. Box 53999 MS 8695
Phoenix, AZ 85072-3999
Thomas.Mumaw@pinnaclewest.com

Kevin C. Higgins ENERGY STRATEGIES, LLC 30 Market Street, Suite 200 Salt Lake City, Utah 84101

*Michael L. Kurtz BORHM KURTZ & LOWRY 36 E. Seventh Street, Suite 2110 Cincinnati, Ohio 45202 1285855.3/73262.005

Mkurtzlaw@aol.com

David Berry P.O. Box 1064 Scottsdale, Arizona 85252

*William P. Inman
Dept. of Revenue
1600 W. Monroe, Room 911
Phoenix, Arizona 85007
InmanW@revenue.state.az.us

*Robert Baltes ARIZONA COGENERATION ASSOC. 7250 N. 16th Street, Suite 102 Phoenix, Arizona 85020-5270 <u>Bbaltes@bvaeng.com</u>

*Jana Van Ness APS Mail Station 9905 P.O. Box 53999 Phoenix, Arizona 85072-3999 Jana.vanness@aps.com

David Couture TEP 4350 E. Irvington Road Tucson, Arizona 85714

*Kelly Barr
Jana Brandt
SRP
Mail Station PAB211
P.O. Box 52025
Phoenix, Arizona 85072-2025
Kjbarr@srpnet.com
Jkbrandt@srpnet.com

Randall H. Warner JONES SKELTON & HOCHULI PLC 2901 N. Central Avenue, Suite 800 Phoenix, Arizona 85012

John A. LaSota, Jr.
MILLER LASOTA & PETERS, PLC
5225 N. Central Ave., Suite 235
Phoenix, Arizona 85012

Peter W. Frost Conoco Gas and Power Marketing 600 N. Dairy Ashford, CH-1068 Houston, Texas 77079 Joan Walker-Ratliff Conoco Gas and Power Marketing 1000 S. Pine, 125-4 ST UPO Ponca City, Oklahoma 74602

*Vicki G. Sandler C/o Linda Spell APS Energy Services P.O. Box 53901 Mail Station 8103 Phoenix, Arizona 85072-3901 Linda spell@apses.com

*Lori Glover STIRLING ENERGY SYSTEMS 2920 E. Camelback Rd., Suite 150 Phoenix, Arizona 85016 Lglover@stirlingenergy.com

*Jeff Schlegel SWEEP 1167 Samalayuca Drive Tucson, Arizona 85704-3224 Schlegelj@aol.com

*Howard Geller SWEEP 2260 Baseline Rd., Suite 200 Boulder, Colorado 80302 Hgeller@swenergy.org

*Mary-Ellen Kane ACAA 2627 N. 3rd Street, Suite Two Phoenix, Arizona 85004 <u>Mkane@azcaa.org</u>

*Aaron Thomas AES NewEnergy 350 S. Grand Avenue, Suite 2950 Los Angeles, California 90071 <u>Aaron.thomas@aes.com</u>

*Theresa Mead AES NewEnergy P.O. Box 65447 Tucson, Arizona 85728 Theresa.mead@aes.com

*Peter Van Haren CITY OF PHOENIX Attn: Jesse W. Sears 1285855.3/73262.005 200 W. Washington Street, Suite 1300 Phoenix, Arizona 85003-1611 Jesse.sears@phoenix.gov

*Robert Annan
ARIZONA CLEAN ENERGY INDUSTRIES
ALLIANCE
6605 E. Evening Glow Drive
Scottsdale, Arizona 85262
Annan@primenet.com

Curtis L. Kebler RELIANT RESOURCES, INC. 8996 Etiwanda Avenue Rancho Cucamonga, California 91739

*Philip Key RENEWABLE ENERGY LEADERSHIP GROUP 10631 E. Autumn Sage Drive Scottsdale, Arizona 85259 <u>Keytaic@aol.com</u>

*Paul Bullis
OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
1275 W. Washington Street
Phoenix, Arizona 85007
Paul.bullis@ag.state.az.us

*Laurie Woodall
OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
15 S. 15th Avenue
Phoenix, Arizona 85007
Laurie.woodall@ag.state.az.us

*Donna M. Bronski CITY OF SCOTTSDALE 3939 N. Drinkwater Blvd Scottsdale, Arizona 85251 Dbronski@ci.scottsdale.az.us

*Larry F. Eisenstat
Frederick D. Ochsenhirt
DICKSTEIN SHAPIRO MORIN & OSHINSKY
LLP
2101 L Street, NW
Washington, DC 20037
Eisenstatl@dsmo.com
Ochsenhirtf@dsmo.com

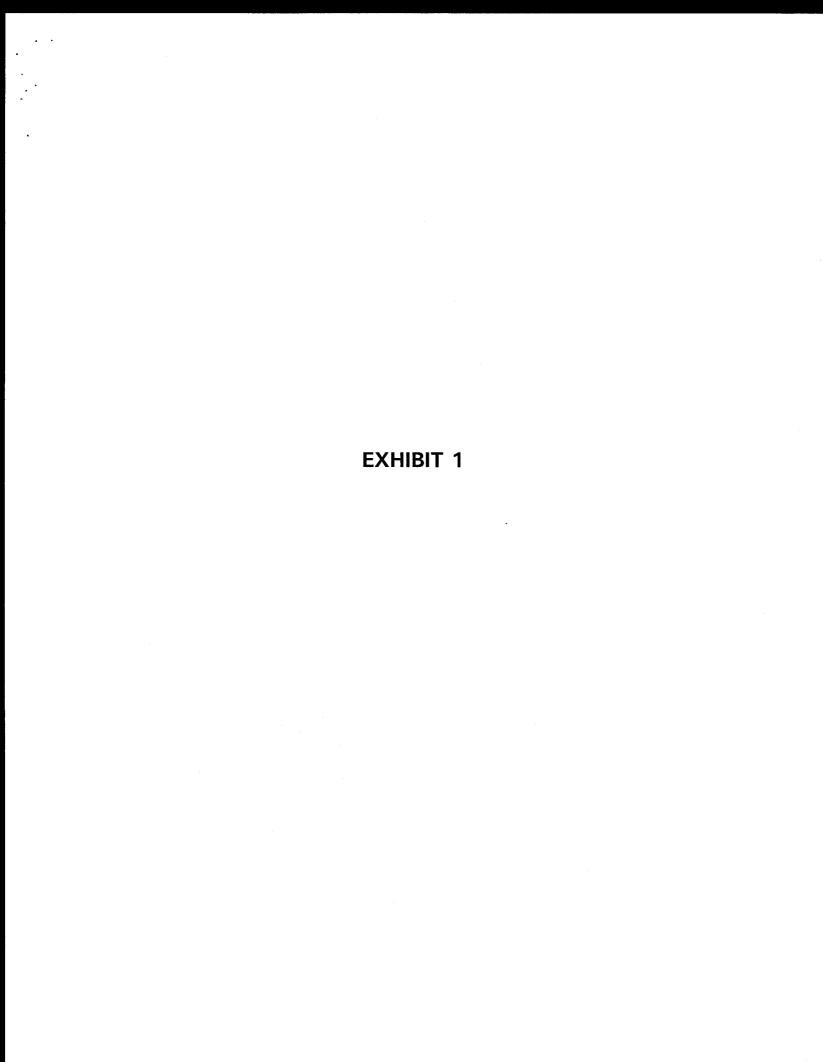
*David A. Crabtree Dierdre A. Brown TECO POWER SERVICES CORP. P.O. Box 111 Tampa, Florida 33602

<u>Dacrabtree@tecoenergy.com</u>

<u>Dabrown@tecoenergy.com</u>

*Michael A. Trentel
Patrick W. Burnett
PANDA ENERGY INTERNATIONAL INC
4100 Spring Valley, Suite 1010
Dallas, Texas 75244
<u>Michaelt@pandaenergy.com</u>
Patb@pandaenergy.com

ARIZONA REPORTING SERVICE, INC. 2627 N. Third Street, Suite Three Phoenix, Arizona 85004-1104

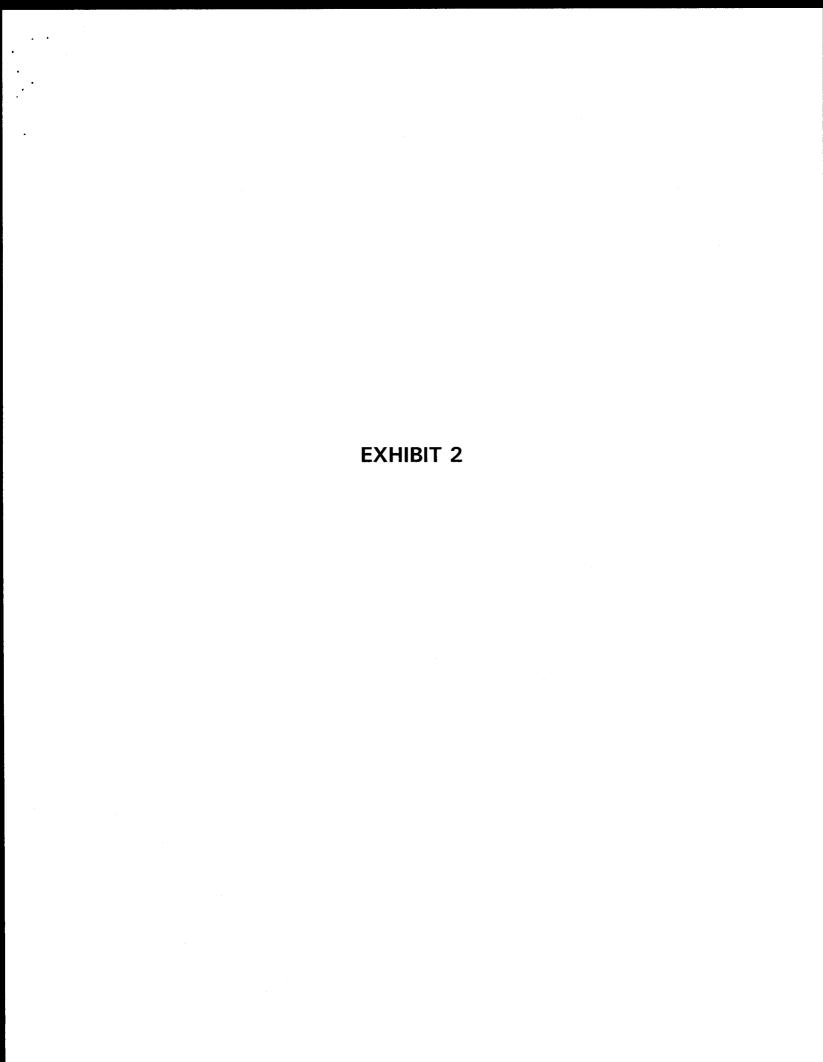


ARIZONA REPORTING SERVICE, INC. Realtime Specialists

(602) 274-9944 Phoenix, AZ

- 1 generation from their wires. Our first step in doing
- 2 that was to create Pinnacle West Energy, which today
- 3 is a separate corporation. It has staff, it is the
- 4 applicant in today's hearing in terms of building new
- 5 generation, and within the next two years, as per the
- 6 rules adopted by the Commission, the APS generation
- 7 will be moved over into Pinnacle West Energy, so
- 8 Pinnacle West Energy will be the generation arm for
- 9 Pinnacle West Capital Corporation.
- 10 Pinnacle West Energy is today staffed by
- 11 several employees, and they use contractors to fill
- 12 out the need for that. And the current structure of
- 13 Pinnacle West Energy is set up in a way so that its
- 14 financing is also set up to be through. Pinnacle West
- 15 Capital for the parent corporation.
- 16 Q. What specific authority is being requested
- 17 from the Siting Committee in this application?
- 18 A. We are requesting that the Siting Committee
- 19 grant a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility for
- 20 the construction of four 530 megawatt combined cycle
- 21 natural gas-fired generating units in western Maricopa
- 22 County.
- I want to provide a quick overview of the
- 24 project. These facilities will be merchant plants.
- 25 They truly will be in the competitive market. They

- 1 will sell energy or not depending on their ability to
- 2 sell at a price that can get into the market, and as
- 3 such, the risk for that generation in selling that
- 4 generation will be with Pinnacle West Energy.
- It is intended to provide the need of the
- 6 expanding, not just the Phoenix market, but also the
- 7 general market in the southwest which continues to
- 8 grow. And we've heard a lot of testimony on the need
- 9 for new generation in both Maricopa County in Arizona
- 10 and in the southwest, and this site was selected in
- 11 part to meet that need.
- 12 Q. At the risk of being somewhat redundant,
- 13 could you briefly describe where the plant will be
- 14 located?
- A. It's about 50 miles west of Phoenix near
- 16 Wintersburg. It is just south of the Palo Verde
- 17 nuclear generating property. And it's really about a
- 18 half mile south of the station itself, but it's really
- 19 just across the road by about a half mile from the
- 20 Palo Verde property.
- This map that's on the board and the board
- 22 over there on the side of the screen actually provides
- 23 a much better overview of the site. You'll see the
- 24 Palo Verde power plant right in the middle of the
- 25 screen. The blue mark in the middle of the Palo Verde



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Page 1
             BEFORE THE POWER PLANT AND TRANSMISSION
1
                       LINE SITING COMMITTEE
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3
     IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF
4
     PINNACLE WEST ENERGY CORPORATION OR
5
     THEIR ASSIGNEE(S), IN CONFORMANCE WITH)
     THE REQUIREMENTS OF ARIZONA REVISED
     STATUTES 40-360.03 AND 40-360.06, FOR )
                                               CASE NO. 92
 6
     A CERTIFICATE OF ENVIRONMENTAL
                                               DOCKET NO.
     COMPATIBILITY AUTHORIZING THE
7
     CONSTRUCTION OF TWO NATURAL GAS-FIRED
                                               L-00000J-99-
     COMBINED CYCLE GENERATING FACILITIES
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     AND ASSOCIATED INTRAPLANT TRANSMISSION)
     LINES AND RELATED FACILITIES IN
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     MARICOPA COUNTY, ARIZONA, AND WITHIN
     THE LIMITS OF THE CITY OF PHOENIX AT
10
     THE NORTHWEST CORNER OF 43RD AVENUE
     AND HADLEY STREET.
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13
              Phoenix, Arizona
     At:
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              November 19, 1999
     Date:
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     Filed:
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               REPORTER'S TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS
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                         ARIZONA REPORTING SERVICE, INC.
                                  Court Reporting
21
                                    Suite Three
                             2627 North Third Street
22
                            Phoenix, Arizona 85004-1103
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                           By:
                                 CECELIA BROOKMAN, RPR
     Prepared for:
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Page 14

Pinnacle West Energy was formed within the last two months, which it is and will be the generation company 2 for Pinnacle West Capital Corporation. And we also have a new company called APS Energy Services, which is the retail arm that will be out marketing and selling energy in the marketplace.

Q. Was Pinnacle West Energy formed in part to respond to regulations adopted by the Arizona Corporation Commission?

9 10 A. Yes, it was. As I mentioned, as we move into this new world of deregulated utility industry, the 11 Commission, the Arizona Corporation Commission has 12 been considering and now adopted a set of rules that 13 will govern this new competitive world. Within those 14 rules there are provisions that require incumbent 15 utilities to divest their generating assets, and it 16 provided some flexibility on how to do that. 17

Pinnacle West Capital Corporation's decision 18 on how to move those generating assets from APS was 19 20 done in the following way, to create Pinnacle West Energy, and all of those generating assets will be 21 moved from APS into Pinnacle West Energy within the 2.2

next two years. In that context, Pinnacle West Energy 23 was formed, and we're looking for other opportunities 24

in the competitive marketplace, so it won't be just

Page 16

...

CHMN. PIERSON: May we have just a break here 1 2 to note that Sandie Smith is now with us, has just joined us, so that gives us seven Committee members. 3

And perhaps, Mr. Wheeler, it will be a good idea if I noted for the record that there were no requests, applications for intervention and no limited. appearance statements filed, so far as I know.

MR. WHEELER: And that's consistent with our understanding of the records. We've been checking Docket Control on a regular basis and we are not aware of any such pleadings.

CHMN. PIERSON: Thank you. Pardon me, Mr. Fox, go ahead. THE WITNESS: Thank you, sir.

Let me start over. Pinnacle West Energy requests that the Committee grant it a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility for the construction of two combined cycle natural gas-fired generating units here in Phoenix, Arizona. Unit 1 that we call unit combined cycle four, CC4, will be 120 megawatts, and CC5, which will be 530 megawatts.

Q. (BY MR. WHEELER) Will these be dedicated units? And by that I mean, will the output be sold to one particular customer in the contract?

A. No, they won't. As I explained earlier, as

moving the existing assets, but Pinnacle West Energy 2 will also be responsible for all new assets, 3 generating assets as we go forward into the future. 4

Q. How will Pinnacle West Energy be staffed and financed?

A. Pinnacle West Energy is made up of former APS employees who have moved over into Pinnacle West Energy and former Pinnacle West Capital Corporation employees who have moved over into Pinnacle West Energy. The organization is brand-new, and the company is brand-new, and the financing for this new company Pinnacle West Energy and its ventures including the current expansion, is indeed being

14 backed by Pinnacle West Capital Corporation, the parent company, and the financial aspects, there will 16 be financial infusion into Pinnacle West Energy by the 17 parent company.

18 Q. Let's turn now to the subject of the 19 application that's before the Siting Committee. What 20 specifically is Pinnacle West Energy Company 21 requesting from this Committee?

22 A. Pinnacle West Energy requests that the 23 Committee grant it a Certificate for Environmental 24 Compatibility for the construction of two combined cycle natural gas generating units.

Page 17 the utility industry moves in the competitive marketplace, part of that competitive marketplace is

in the generation of electricity itself. And these facilities will be merchant plants that will be

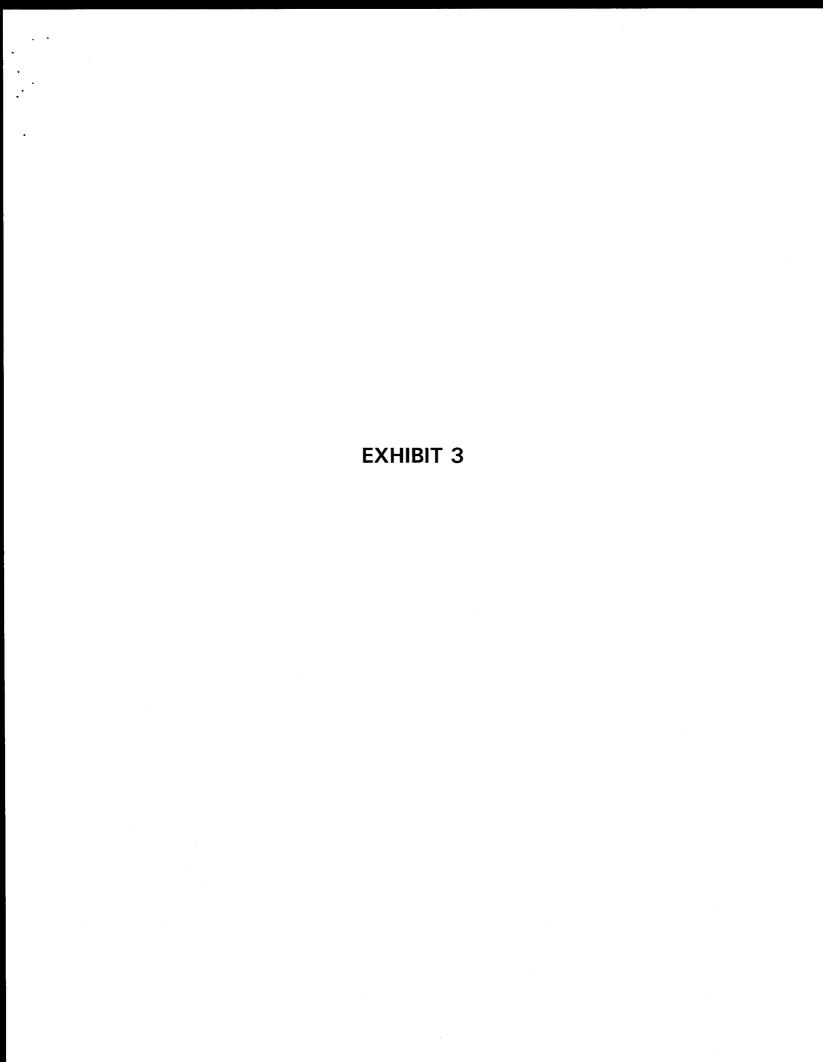
selling into the wholesale market.

6 In this regard, and being part, selling into the wholesale market, the competitive market, being an unregulated subsidiary of Pinnacle West Capital Corporation, the ratepayers will not be at risk for 10 this venture and for this expansion.

While we will be selling into the marketplace, we do expect that much of the energy will be sold here in Phoenix. We have a 6 percent load. growth here in the urban area, a significant demand for import of energy during peak times during the summer, and we do expect much of the generation will be sold to meet the expanding needs of the Phoenix metropolitan area.

CHMN, PIERSON: Mr. Wheeler, excuse me. Do you plan at any point, with any witness, to discuss where transmission fits into the deregulation scheme?

22 MR. WHEELER: Not precisely in that context. 23 although I have gotten a word that at least some of 24 the Siting Committee members may have questions in that regard, and probably Mr. Fox is the best person



PINNACLE WEST GIVEN ENVIRONMENTAL OKAY FOR 2,725 MW OF GENERATION IN ARIZONA

318 words
25 February 2000
Utility Environment Report
5
English
(Copyright 2000 McGraw-Hill, Inc.)

Pinnacle West Energy has won certificates of environmental compatibility for two merchant power plants under development in Arizona.

The certificates, granted by an Arizona Corporation Commission committee, significantly advance development of the projects, which are to sell into the deregulated power markets of the western U.S., including California, Arizona and New Mexico, said the company, a unit of Phoenix-based Pinnacle West Capital Corp.

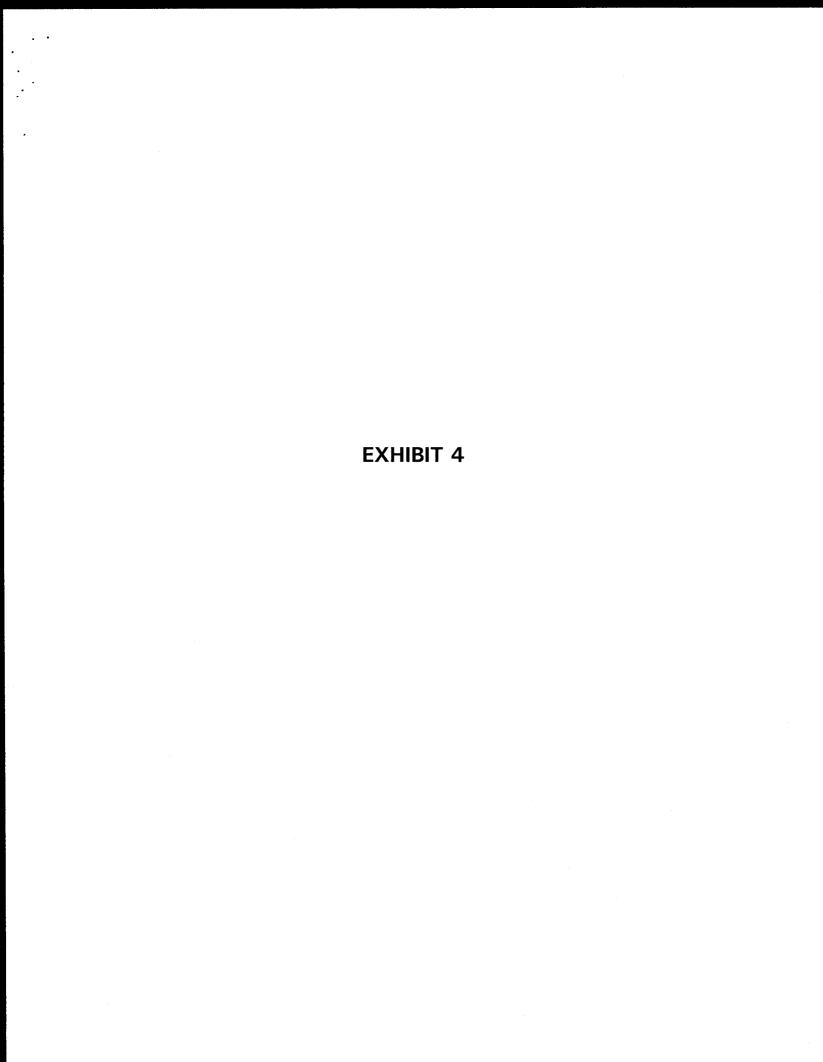
Without the certificates, Pinnacle West could not proceed with the permitting process, which includes going to other agencies for an air quality permit and for a land zoning change for one of the plant sites. The company is now confident it can obtain both the air permits and zoning change in the near future.

The projects--one of 2,080 MW capacity and one of 645 MW capacity, for a total of 2,725 MW--are both combined-cycle, gas-fired plants.

Pinnacle West still must complete a detailed transmission study for three of the four 520-MW units at the larger of the two projects, the \$1-billion Red Hawk development. The study will make sure the additional capacity of the plants does not interfere with the existing transmission capabilities of the area, which is also the site of the Palo Verde Nuclear Generating Station.

Pinnacle West plans to bring Red Hawk on-line in four phases. The first unit is scheduled to go into operation in 2003, and all 2,080 MW is to be in service by 2007. Work on the first unit is expected to begin in late 2000.

The smaller project is a joint venture with independent power producer Calpine Corp. of San Jose, Calif., and will be located next to the existing 591-MW West Phoenix Power station, owned and operated by Arizona Public Service, also a unit of Pinnacle West Capital.



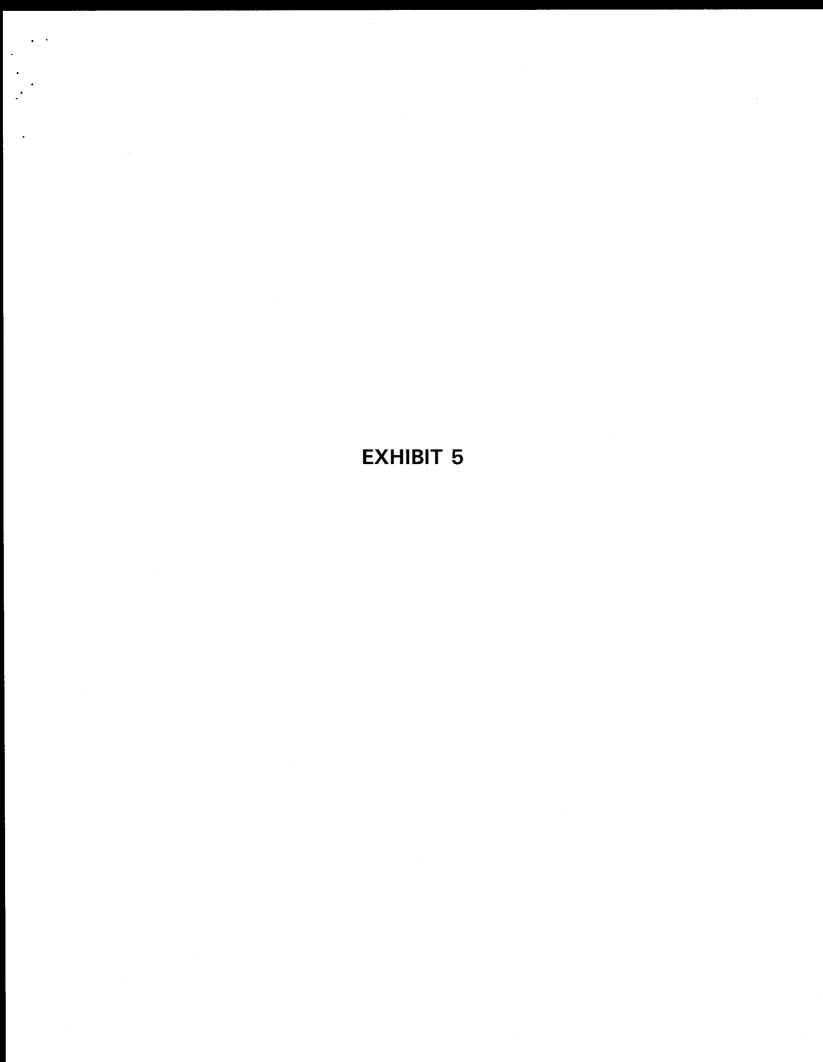
ACC ISSUES PERMITS FOR 2,725 MW

174 words
28 February 2000
Power Markets Week
16
English
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Arizona regulators have concluded that two merchant plants Pinnacle West Energy is planning to build in the state pass environmental muster. The company, a unit of Phoenix-based Pinnacle West, wants to sell the generation into deregulated retail markets in the West.

The gas-fired projects will have a combined capacity of 2,725 MW must still obtain several additional permits and company officials said they are confident they will soon be secured. The company also must assure regulators that it will be able to move power from the larger of the two projects. The company is required to complete an assessment to determine whether the additional capacity would overload the existing transmission system, which also handles the Palo Verde Nuclear Generating Station.

Pinnacle plans to bring the largest project, the 2,080-MW Red Hawk facility, into operation in stages with the first power on-line in 2003 and the last by 2007. Calpine Corp. will work with Pinnacle as a partner in the project.



Reliant Energy Power Generation, Pinnacle West Energy Sign Agreement Covering Construction, Operation of New Power Plants in Arizona, Nevada

593 words
13 March 2000
17:15
PR Newswire
English
(Copyright (c) 2000, PR Newswire)

HOUSTON, March 13 /PRNewswire/ -- Reliant Energy Power Generation, Inc. (REPGI), a wholly owned subsidiary of Reliant Energy (NYSE: REI), announced today that it has signed a Joint Development Agreement (JDA) with Pinnacle West Energy, Inc., Phoenix, covering construction and operation of three new merchant power plants in Arizona and Nevada.

The JDA requires the parties to work together on an exclusive basis for 120 days toward the signing of a definitive joint-venture agreement on plant construction and operation.

Plans call for REPGI and Pinnacle West Energy to be equal partners in the JDA. The joint venture would own and operate two plants in Nevada and a third plant in western Arizona. With a nominal total capacity of as much as 2,900 megawatts, the plants would provide electricity to the power grid serving the western states.

"The plants would add a major dimension of strength to our existing portfolio in California, Arizona, and Nevada, including our five merchant plants in California, another soon to be fully operational near Las Vegas, and a plant under construction near Casa Grande, Arizona," said Joe Bob Perkins, president and chief operating officer of the Reliant Energy Wholesale Group.

"The JDA complements our power origination and asset-backed energy trading and marketing strategy, and the plants would further complement and aid in meeting the growing power needs of customers in the Southwest," Perkins said.

REPGI would contribute two new natural gas-fired plants in Nevada to the JDA. One plant would have a capacity of as much as 1,400 megawatts and the second plant 500 megawatts.

Pinnacle West Energy plans to contribute its 1,060-megawatt, gas-fired Red Hawk power project to the JDA. Construction is expected to start in the third quarter, with commercial operation slated in the summer, 2002.

Pinnacle West Capital Corporation is a Phoenix-based company with consolidated assets of approximately \$7 billion. Through its subsidiaries, the company generates, sells, and delivers electricity and sells electricity and energy-related products and services to retail and wholesale customers in the western United States. It also develops residential, commercial, and industrial real estate projects.

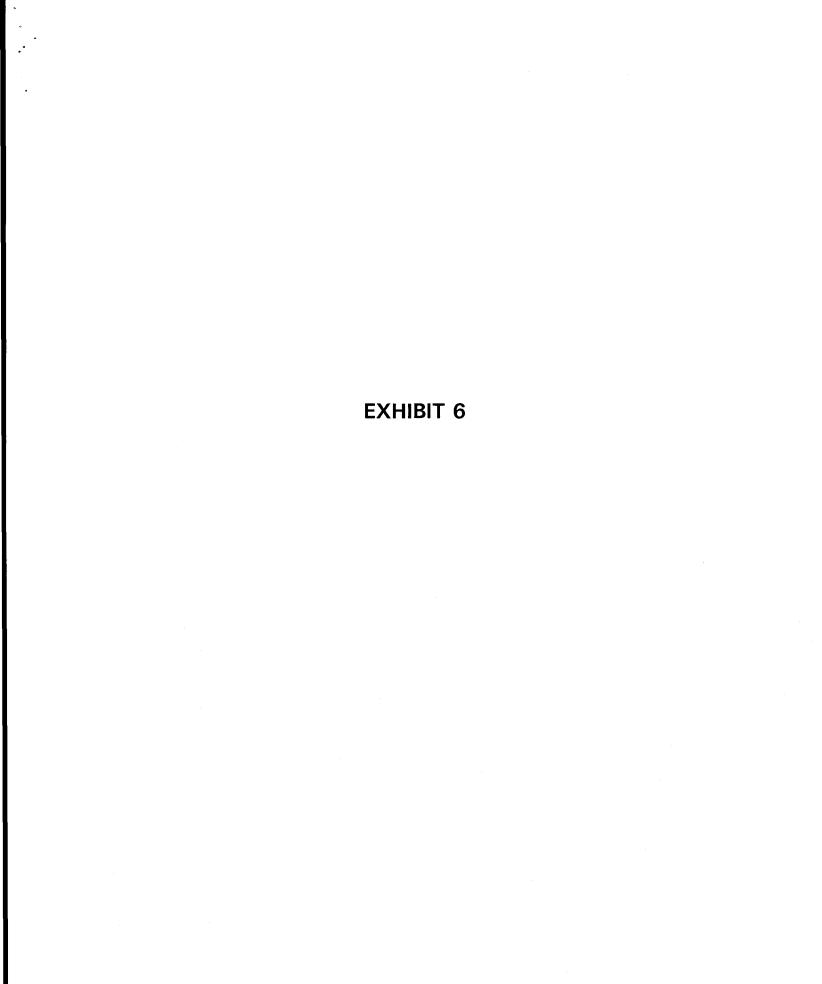
Reliant Energy, based in Houston, Texas, is an international energy services and energy delivery company with \$15.3 billion in annual revenue and assets totaling more than \$26 billion.

The company has a wholesale energy trading and marketing business that ranks among the top five in the U.S. in combined electricity and natural gas volumes and has a presence in most of the major power regions of the U.S. It also has power generation and wholesale trading and marketing operations in western Europe. The company has more than 22,000 megawatts of power generation in operation in the U.S. and western Europe, and has announced acquisitions and development projects that will add another 9,750 megawatts, including the planned joint venture with Pinnacle West Energy.

Reliant Energy also has marketing and distribution operations serving nearly four million electricity and natural gas customers in the U.S., significant interests in power distribution operations serving nearly 10 million customers in Latin America, and a telecommunications business in the Houston area.

For more information about Reliant Energy, visit the company's website at www.reliantenergy.com.

/CONTACT: media, Richard Wheatley of Reliant Energy, 713-207-5881; or Craig Nesbit of Pinnacle West Energy, Inc., 602-250-2896; or investors, Randy Burkhalter of Reliant Energy, 713-207-3115/17:00 EST



Reliant, Pinnacle West join on projects

324 words
14 March 2000
Megawatt Daily
Volume 5; Issue 50
English
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Two power developers announced yesterday that they would jointly develop more than 2,500 MW in Arizona and Nevada.

Reliant Energy and Pinnacle West Energy agreed to share the costs and output of three previously announced projects to expand each company's generation base.

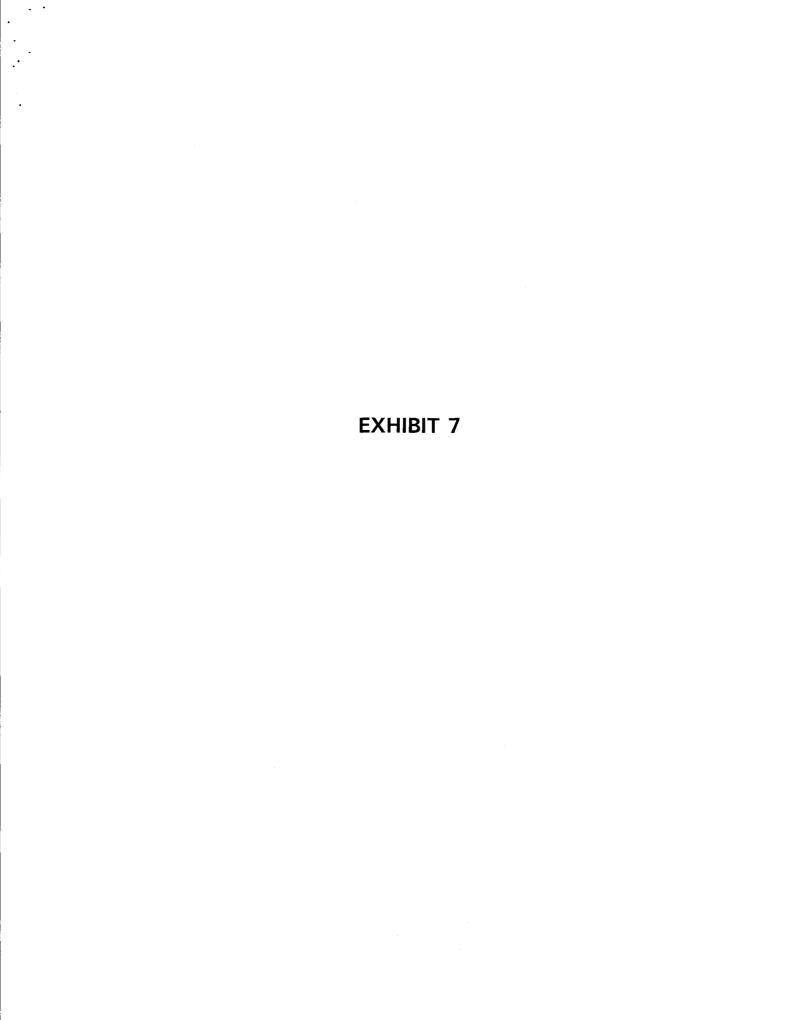
The deal includes Units 1 and 2 of the Red Hawk Power Plant in Arizona and two Nevada projects that will total 1,500 MW when completed. The two Nevada projects, one in the northern portion of the state and one near Las Vegas, give Pinnacle West its first merchant presence outside Arizona.

"These projects will allow us to meet increasing demands for power across the Southwest and at the same time promote a competitive market that will ultimately benefit consumers," Pinnacle West Capital President Bill Post said. "We intend to create a robust generation business that helps ensure a reliable supply of electricity in the West."

The companies will own half of each project, so in exchange for a 50% share of the first two Red Hawk units, Pinnacle West will get a 50% share in the three units at the two Nevada sites. Red Hawk is expected to begin commercial operation in summer 2002 and Pinnacle will develop two additional units at that site independently of Reliant.

The deal fits with Pinnacle West Energy's strategy of expanding its energy holdings in the Southwest, a Pinnacle West Energy official said.

"We intend to offer competitively priced electricity in growing Southwest markets by producing low-cost energy that is accessible to key transmission hubs," Pinnacle West Energy President Bill Stewart said. "These projects are part of our overall growth strategy that will keep us near the top of western power producers. This partnership is a demonstration of our oft-stated goal of being a broad-based supplier for power markets in the West, where we have extensive business experience and market knowledge." MP



PINNACLE WEST ESTABLISHES MERCHANT ARM; PLANS 500-MW PLANT WITH CALPINE

269 words 3 May 1999 Power Markets Week 7 English

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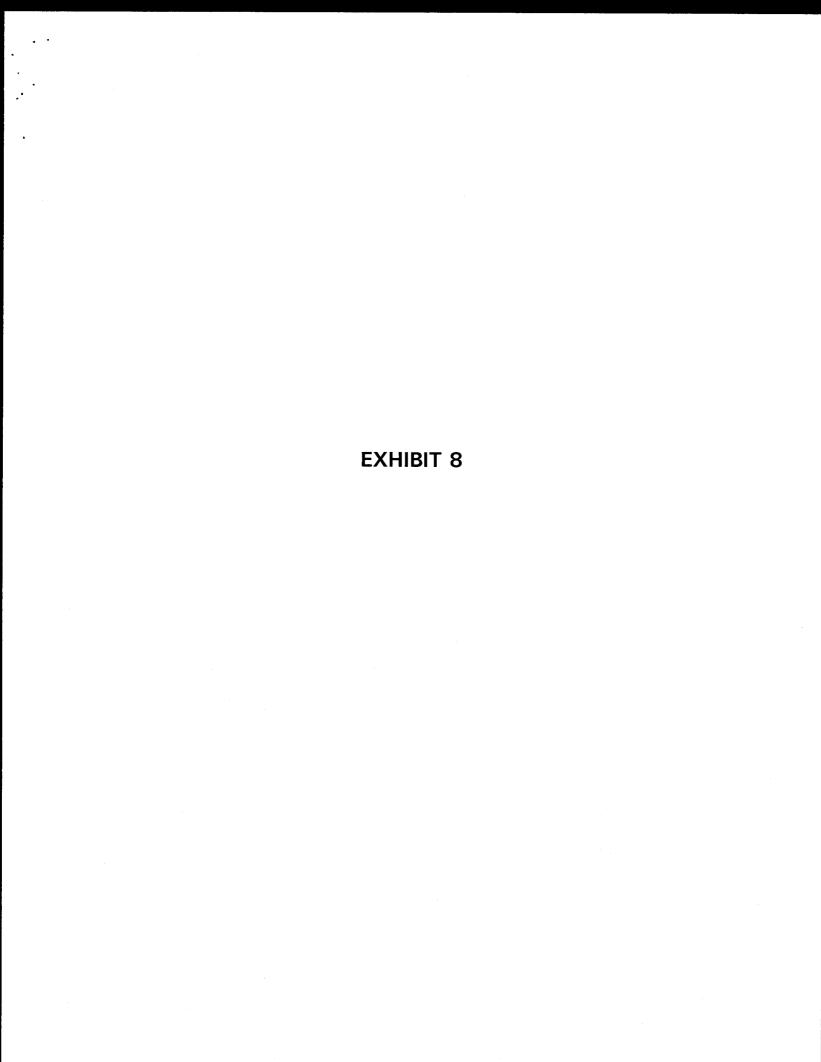
Phoenix-based Pinnacle West Capital Corp., holding company of Arizona Public Service, has created a subsidiary to develop and acquire merchant power capacity. The new company, Pinnacle West Generation, will be active throughout the Western States Coordinating Council, focusing on projects in Arizona, California, Colorado, Nevada, Utah and the Pacific Northwest.

The company last week said it has reached an agreement with independent power producer Calpine Corp., San Jose, Calif., to build, own and operate a 500-MW, gas-fired combined cycle plant in Phoenix. The proposed \$220-million facility will be located next to APS's 591-MW West Phoenix Power station and is scheduled to begin operating in late 2001.

The two partners also may expand the capacity of an existing 106-MW unit at the site to 130 MW, but said details of the project are not final. "We'll either do it with Calpine or by ourselves," a PWG official said. An additional repowering project is tentatively planned and would involve a 116-MW unit at the same site. The 116-MW unit began operating in 1948, and two other units came on-line in the early to mid-1970s.

Once the units are in operation, PWG plans to sell the power into the wholesale market. `The buyer could be Arizona Public Service or Salt River Project, or any other provider active in the market," the official said.

Retail competition in Arizona is scheduled to begin Jan. 1, 2001, but the state's restructuring law does not require utilities to divest their generation.



CALPINE CORP. AND NEW UNREGULATED UNIT OF ARIZ. UTILITY TO BUILD 500-MW PLANT

303 words
30 April 1999
Global Power Report
15
English
(c) 1999 McGraw-Hill, Inc.

Calpine Corp. and Pinnacle West Generation have launched development of a 500-MW, gas-fired combined-cycle plant near Phoenix.

Pinnacle West Generation is the newly formed unregulated subsidiary of Pinnacle West Capital, the holding company of Arizona Public Service.

PWG plans to build plants in all the states of the Western Systems Coordinating Council, specifically ``Arizona, Nevada, Utah, California, Colorado and up into the Northwest," a PWG executive said.

Even though the agreement with Calpine is not exclusive, PWG and Calpine are also exploring a smaller project at the Phoenix site, the repowering of a 106-MW plant to a 130-MW, gas-fired, combined-cycle station. Details of the repowering project are not yet set. "We'll either do it with Calpine, or we'll do it ourselves. Right now, we are not looking for another partner," the PWG executive said.

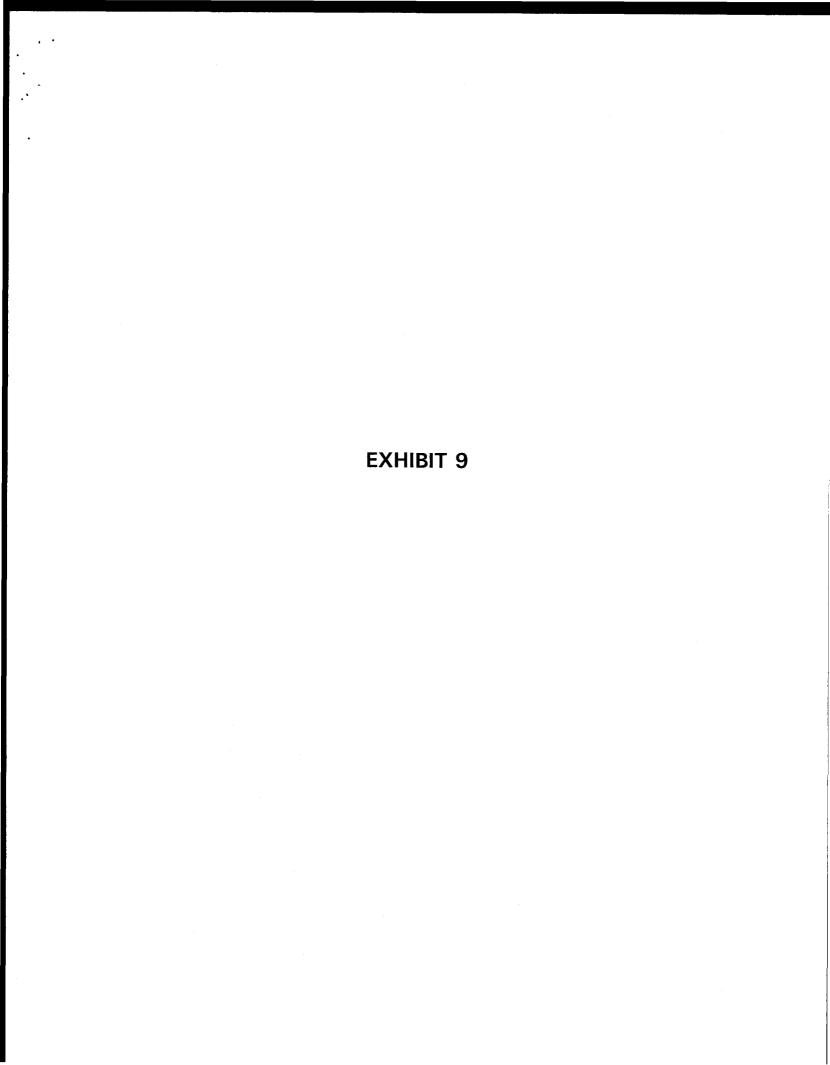
Another repowering project is tentatively planned and would involve a 116-MW plant at the West Phoenix site.

The proposed \$220-million Phoenix facility will be located on the site of Arizona Public Service's 591-MW, gas- and oil-fired West Phoenix station. Construction is scheduled to begin in mid-2000 with commercial operation by late 2001.

The partners plan to sell all the electrical output from plants they develop into the open market. "The buyer could be Arizona Public Service or Salt River Project or any other provider active in the market," the PWG executive said.

The Arizona Corporation Commission recently approved a plan to open the state to retail competition by Jan. 1, 2001, but the state's utilities are not required to sell their generation assets.

The restructuring prompted Arizona Public Service to create PWG to undertake the Phoenix plant.



Pinnacle West to Build Large Power Project in Western Maricopa County

635 words
29 September 1999
17:48
Business Wire
English
(c) 1999 Business Wire

PHOENIX--(BUSINESS WIRE)--Sept. 29, 1999--Pinnacle West Capital Corporation (NYSE:PNW) plans to develop a natural gas-fired electric generating station of up to 2,120 megawatts approximately 50 miles west of Phoenix near the Palo Verde Nuclear Generating Station switchyard, Generation President Bill Stewart announced today.

The plant will compete in deregulated energy markets of Arizona, California and other western states and will be operated by Pinnacle West Energy, the new Pinnacle West generating entity that was formed earlier this week.

"We intend to be a vigorous player in these competitive generation markets," Stewart said. "We have a strong record of low-cost, efficient plant operation. We can best serve the public and our shareholders by pursuing these developing markets, particularly in Arizona and the Southwest."

The state-of-the-art, four-unit combined cycle plant will be built in phases, coming on line in 530-megawatt increments beginning in 2003, with the final unit anticipated to be operational in 2007. Land has been acquired and environmental permit applications are being prepared and submitted for the project. Construction contracts will be on a fixed-price basis and total approximately \$1 billion. Work on the first unit is expected to begin in late 2000.

As part of the project, Pinnacle West has begun seeking the input of residents from nearby neighborhoods and communities who will be asked to provide advice during planning, construction and operation of the new facility.

The plant's location was selected because the Palo Verde switchyard is a major transmission hub and provides access to energy markets in Arizona, California and across the Southwest, a region that has seen significant growth. Since 1994, electricity usage in Arizona has increased more than 4.5 percent a year.

In a separate project announced in April, Pinnacle West and Calpine Corp. of San Jose, Calif., will build a 530-megawatt natural gas-fired combined cycle unit at the existing West Phoenix Power Station. Pinnacle West also will build a 130-megawatt combined cycle unit at West Phoenix. Environmental permit applications are being prepared and submitted, and construction of the smaller unit is to begin early next year.

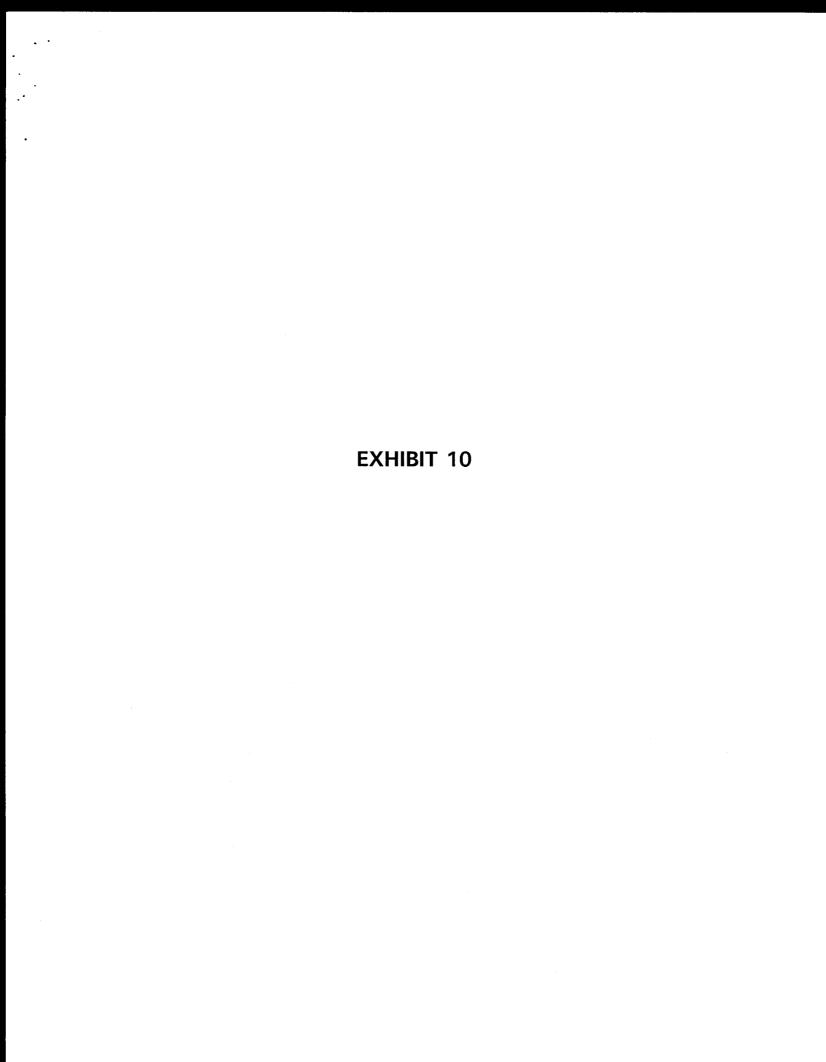
Natural gas-fired, combined cycle technology is widely regarded as clean burning because it first uses hot combustion gases to power one turbine and then uses the same gases a second time to produce steam that can power a second turbine, essentially using the same heat energy twice. Combined cycle technology produces the lowest emissions of any fossil fuel.

Long term, the Pinnacle West projects will provide electricity to sustain a strong economy, Stewart said. In addition, they will make available low-cost power for consumers during periods of high demand, such as during hot summer months, as well as stabilize the southwestern power grid to prevent imbalances that can cause power interruptions.

Pinnacle West, through its subsidiary APS, manages approximately 8,000 megawatts of generating capacity.

This press release contains forward-looking statements that involve risks and uncertainties, which include, but are not limited to, the ongoing restructuring of the electric industry; the outcome of the regulatory proceedings relating to the restructuring; regional economic and market conditions, which could affect customer growth and the cost of power supplies; the cost of debt and equity capital; weather variations affecting customer usage; the successful completion of a large-scale construction project; and the strength of the real estate market. These factors and the other matters discussed above may cause future results to differ materially from historical results, or from results or outcomes currently expected or sought by the Company.

CONTACT: Pinnacle West Capital Corporation Jim McDonald 602/250-3704 (office) 602/321-3738 (cell) Paul Reynolds, 602/379-2629 (office) 18:33 EDT SEPTEMBER 29, 1999



12:10pm EST (19-Jan-01) Merrill Lynch (S.Fleishman/S.Brothwell) PNW PNW.N PINNACLE WEST: Deregulated Generation in the West

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Merrill Lynch Global Securities Research
PINNACLE WEST CAPITAL CORP (PNW/NYSE)
Deregulated Generation in the West
Steven I. Fleishman (1) 212 449-0926
Sam Brothwell (1) 212 449-9703

ML++ML++ML

ACCUMULATE

Long Term: BUY

Reason for Report: Q4 Earnings Review; Raising 2001E

Investment Highlights:

- o Q4 earnings of \$0.50 came in well above our \$0.43E. Upside came from higher electric margins, primarily wholesale.
- o 2000 was a sizzling year for PNW with access into the high priced, volatile Western markets, PNW's wholesale business capitalized on the opportunities.
- o Raising 2001E to \$3.60 from \$3.50. With forward price curves still reflecting the tight supply situation, electric margins should remain strong. Initial 2002E is \$3.85.
- O PNW recently announced it would not match a higher bid EIX received for 710MW of Four Corners Unit 1 & 2. The 610MW purchase agreement for Palo Verde is still pending before the CPUC in CA but is in doubt due to the California crisis.
- o PNW has hedged its summer exposure assuming EIX assets are not purchased, but this is important to watch:
- o Exposure to CA has been limited by selling into CA only when asked by the ISO and credit risk management.
- o With a solid mgmt team in place and a focused strategy in Western markets, PNW remains a core midcap utility holding. Our price objective is \$50,or 14x

Price:	\$41				
12 Month Price Objective:	\$5	50			
Estimates (Dec)	2000A	2001E	2002E		
EPS:	\$3.57	\$3.60	\$3.85		
P/E:	11.4x	11.4x	10.6x		
EPS Change (YoY):		0.8%	6.9%		
Consensus EPS:		\$3.65	\$4.01		
(First Call: 28-Nov-2000)					
Cash Flow/Share:	\$7.55	\$7.70	\$7.95		
Price/Cash Flow:	5.4x	5.3x	5.2x		
Dividend Rate:	\$1.50	\$1.60	\$1.70		
Dividend Yield:	3.7%	3.9%	4.1%		
Opinion & Financial Data					

Investment Opinion: B-2-1-7

Mkt. Value / Shares Outstanding (mn): \$3,394.9 / 85

Book Value/Share (Sep-2000): \$28.05

Price/Book Ratio: 1.5x
ROE 2000E Average: NA
LT Liability % of Capital: 44.4%
Est. 5 Year EPS Growth: 8.0%

Stock Data

52-Week Range: \$52.69-\$25.69 Symbol / Exchange: PNW / NYSE

Options: Pacific

Institutional Ownership-Vickers: 73.8% Brokers Covering (First Call): 11

For full investment opinion definitions, see footnotes.

Earnings Review Q4 2000 - Reported & Operating \$0.50 vs. \$0.53.

12 Months Ended Dec 2000 - Reported \$3.57 vs. \$1.98 per share; Operating \$3.57 vs. \$3.18 per share.

Adjustments:1999 - \$1.65/share regulatory disallowance and a \$0.45 Merabank tax credit, both Q3.

Closing The Books With An Upside

Q4 earnings of \$0.50 came in well above our \$0.43E and Consensus of \$0.44.

Upside came from higher electric margins, primarily wholesale. This more than offset the absence of investment tax credits (ITC) and the rate cut impact.

The investment sub (El Dorado) performed in line with a weak tech market while the real-estate sub (Suncor) took advantage of higher sales opportunities.

At APS, earnings jumped to \$0.63 vs. \$0.42. Sales were up a strong 16.2% with retail up 3.8% (Residential +8%, Commercial +2%) and wholesale +33.1%. Electric gross margins advanced +\$0.14/share which includes a \$0.03-\$0.04/share drag from 1.5% rate cut. Upsides came from the high-priced, volatile power markets, cooler than normal weather, increased customer growth and usage. Lower 0&M (+\$0.06) and interest expense (+\$0.02) also helped. Offsets include absence of ITCs (-\$0.04) and higher D&A (-\$0.03).

Suncor advanced modestly to \$0.04 vs. \$0.03 on increased land/home sales. El Dorado suffered a loss of \$(0.06) vs. \$0.13 on mark-to-market accounting. Q4'99 had included some sizeable gains which we had indicated were unlikely to be repeated. Corporate dragged \$(0.11) vs. \$(0.05).

Sizzling Year

EPS of \$3.57 increased 12.3%, driven by solid earnings from APS. Suncor earnings doubled from increased land and home sales. El Dorado suffered a decline in earnings, along with a weak tech market, after realizing significant gains in Olfrom a change in mark to market accounting.

Retail sales grew +6.9% (Resi +11.5%; Comm +3.8%) and wholesale +40.2%. Customer growth increased 3.7%, in line with historical growth trends. APS advanced to \$3.61 from \$3.14 with electric gross margins leading the way (+\$0.70). Margins improved despite a -\$0.18 rate reduction. In Q2, when power prices hit its summer peak early, PNW capitalized in its net long position in the tight Western markets, and enjoyed sizeable wholesale gains. Continued volatility of power prices and a cold start to this winter enabled PNW to book wholesale gains in Q4 as well. Some of these gains were offset by booking higher purchased power costs in Q3 when PNW is supply short. Absence of ITC hurt -\$0.28. Suncor earnings doubled to \$0.14 while El Dorado slipped to \$0.02 vs. \$0.14.

Update on Generation Projects

PNW disclosed last week that it was not going to match a higher, competing bid Southern California Edison had received for a 48% stake in Units 4 & 5 of Four Corners (710MW). The agreement between the two companies for purchasing 15.8% of the Palo Verde nuclear plant (600MW) is still pending before the CPUC. In light of the recent CA power crisis, the Commission has stated it would need to re-evaluate the purchase agreement. We would note that for 2001 and 2002, PNW has hedged forward its summer peak requirements assuming its does not own the EIX plants. Existing resources includes the 120MW West Phoenix plant upgrade coming on line in 2001. The JV with Calpine, which called for the remaining 530MW upgrade of the West Phoenix plant, has been called off. Instead, PNW will now do the upgrade by itself and it is still expected to be on line for summer 2003. In summer 2002, Redhawk Units 1 & 2 (1060MW) are expected to come on line.

Limited California Exposure

While PNW does trade in the infamous California region, it has limited its exposure. As operators of the Palo Verde and Four Corners plants, a default by EIX on operating costs means PNW does not get paid. However, any unpaid balances result in EIX losing entitlement to the power, eliminating some of PNW's risk. In addition, PNW has been managing exposure to the ISO and PX by shifting business to the more creditworthy of the two and selling into the CA market only if called to do so by the ISO.

Earnings and Stock Outlook

We are raising our 2001E to \$3.60 from \$3.50. With forward prices reflecting the tight supply situation, we believe PNW's wholesale operations should continue to have some attractive opportunities. Moreover, the reg asset amortization schedule calls for a \$6M decrease versus 2000. We also expect Suncor's improvement to continue. Our initial estimate for 2002 is \$3.85.

PNW has most of what we like in a utility: top tier EPS growth potential, a high growth market, attractive generating assets that have been deregulated, and no return caps in its rate deal. Management is shareholder-oriented and has a focused strategy in a focused market. Our price objective is \$50 at 14x our 2001E.

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Americas

U.S./Electric Utilities

April 16, 2001

BUY USD 47.25

LARGE CAP

Paul Patterson 1 212 325 5876 paul.patterson@csfb.com

Neil Stein 1 212 325 4217 neil.stein@csfb.com

Wen-Wen Lindroth Chen 1 212 538 0223 wing-ham.chen@csfb.com

Pinnacle West Corporation

PNW

Raising Estimates—Positive Analyst Meeting and Fourth Quarter Earnings Results

- On April 11. Pinnacle West held a positive analyst meeting to reiterate
 its strategy of focusing on unregulated generation in the western markets and its utility operations in Arizona.
- The company will continue with its plan to separate utility assets into a
 queneration subsidiary by the end of 2002. Its portfolio of announced
 projects is expected to grow from 4,000 currently to 6,800 MW by 2006.
- Management indicated that its downside exposure to the California power crisis is minimal. In addition, the company has financially covered its net short and fuel exposure for the next two years, with a combination of long-term purchases, hedges, and option contracts.
- Separately, Pinnacle West reported first quarter EPS, on April 9, of \$0.70. The results exceeded last year's EPS of \$0.64 and represent
 9% year-over-year growth. The major growth driver was increased wholesale sales to the Western power markets.
- Based on strong wholesale pricing in WSCC and PNW's belowaverage production costs and above-average utility sales growth, we raised our EPS estimates to \$3.90 and \$4.20 from \$3.60 and \$3.93 for 2001 and 2002, respectively. Our rating is Buy with a price target of \$59.

Price		Target			Mkt. Value		52-Week
4/11/011	(12-18	Months)	Dividend	Yield	(Millions)	Price	e Range
USD 47.25		\$59	\$1.50	3.1%	\$4,016.3	\$52.6	9-25.69
		Annual	Prev.	Abs.	Rel.	EV/	EBITDA
		EPS	EPS	P/E	P/E	EBITDA	Share
12/02E		\$4.20	\$3.93	11.3X	61%	6.7X	\$13.69
12/01E		3.90	3.60	12.1	58	6.9	13.32
12/00A		3.56		13.3	64	6.7	12.61
		March	June	September	December		FY End
2001E	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	\$0.70A	\$1.15	\$1.49	\$0.56		Dec. 31
2000A		0.64	1.06	1.37	0.50		
ROIC (12/00)	5.72%	Total Deb	t (12/00)	\$2.5 bil.	Book Valu	ue/Share (12/00)	\$28.09
WACC (12/00)	6.72%	Debt/Tota	Capital (12	/00) 55%	Common	Shares	85 mil.
EP Trend ²	Positive	Est. 3-Yr.	EPS Growth	9.8%	Est. 3-Yr.	Div. Growth	7.0%

¹On 4/11/01 DJIA closed at 10013.5 and S&P 500 at 1165.9. ²Economic profit trend.

Pinnacle West Capital's major subsidiary is Arizona Public Service, Arizona's largest electric utility. PNW's other subsidiaries are SunCor Development Company, a real estate development company, and EL Dorado Investment Company, an investment firm with a diversified portfolio, Pinnacle West Energy and APS Energy Services.

Investment Summary

On April 11, Pinnacle West held a positive analyst meeting in New York to reiterate its growth strategy. In particular, the company reviewed its generation strategy in the western markets, its management of purchased power and fuel risk, the performance of its investment companies, and financial strategy.

Well positioned for strong stable growth An important note was management's indication that its downside exposure to the California power crisis is minimal, with \$5 million in receivables reserved in 2000 and another \$5 million reserved in 2001. The company said that it has withdrawn from agreements in which credit risk is significant and now only makes sales to the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) and other creditworthy parties.

In addition, the company has financially covered its entire net short and its fuel exposure for the next two years with a combination of long-term purchases, hedges, and option contracts. During the summer of 2000, Pinnacle's net short position exposed it to higher-than-expected purchase power costs. However, we believe the company has successfully remedied this weakness.

We believe that Pinnacle is on track with its plan to become a successful regional energy provider. Although its pending acquisition of Southern California's stake in the Palo Verde plant may not be realized because of regulatory and legislative events, Pinnacle's build-out program will still be substantial and increase its portfolio by at least 30%, to 5,240 MW in 2002, and at least 70%, to 6,830 MW in 2006.

Based on strong wholesale pricing in WSCC and Pinnacle's below-average production costs and above-average utility sales growth, we raised our EPS estimates to \$3.90 and \$4.20 per share from \$3.60 and \$3.93 for 2001 and 2002, respectively. Our rating is Buy with a price target of \$59.

Western Generation Strategy

Key asset with flexible access to the western power markets

Pinnacle is focused on becoming a major energy provider to the western markets and plans to leverage its knowledge of the region to maximize market opportunities. The company currently owns the second-largest portfolio in the western markets and has a build-out program that should substantially enhance its generation position. It also owns or has access rights to transmission networks throughout nine western states.

Pinnacle draws from a diversified fuel mix that relies on 37% nuclear, 52% coal, and 11% natural-gas-fired generation. In the current high-gas-price environment, Pinnacle's fuel mix provides it with a cost advantage compared with other generators in WSCC, which on average have a larger percentage of gas-fired generation. By 2004, the company plans to have approximately 25% nuclear generation, with the remainder split equally between gas and coal.

The company plans to continue improving its production and capacity efficiency. Its baseload production cost has consistently fallen below the national average during the last six years. In 2000, its nuclear production costs were 1.25 cents per kWh compared with the national industry average of about 1.75 cents per kWh. In addition, Pinnacle's baseload capacity factor is lower than the national average. It achieved 93% capacity factor at Palo Verde in 2000 compared with the national average of 87%. Its coal units reached 83% capacity factor compared with the national average of 70%.

Superior Utility Performance

Arizona Public Service (APS) benefits from strong job and population growth in the state of Arizona. It customer growth rate in 2000 was 3.7% compared with the industry's average rate of 0.8%. Over the same period, APS retail sales grew by 7%, offsetting a 1.5% rate reduction that was implemented in July 2000.

The utility has regulatory settlement that mandates the transfer of its generating assets to a generation subsidiary, named Pinnacle West Energy, by the end of 2000. In addition, the utility will have annual rate reductions of 1.5% a year in its retail rates until the transition period ends in 2004.

Over the next three years, the utility is expected to spend about \$1 billion in capital expenditures to upgrade and maintain its delivery system.

Financial Strategy

Pinnacle anticipates capital expenditures of \$1.21 billion in 2001, \$562 million in 2002, and \$571 million in 2002. Of those amounts, \$659 million, \$129 million, and \$254 million, respectively, are to be allocated to Pinnacle West Energy primarily for generation expansion.

The company expects to finance its expenditures through internally generated cash, construction revolvers, note issuances by the parent company and Pinnacle West Energy, and tax-exempt debt to be transferred from the utility to Pinnacle West Energy. The parent company recently issued \$300 million in senior notes.

The company's debt ratio at the end of 2000 was 55%, and it is expected to rise a few percentage points over the next few years during the build-out period, and then decline as the incremental generation.

The company does not plan to undertake share repurchases or equity issuances in the near future.

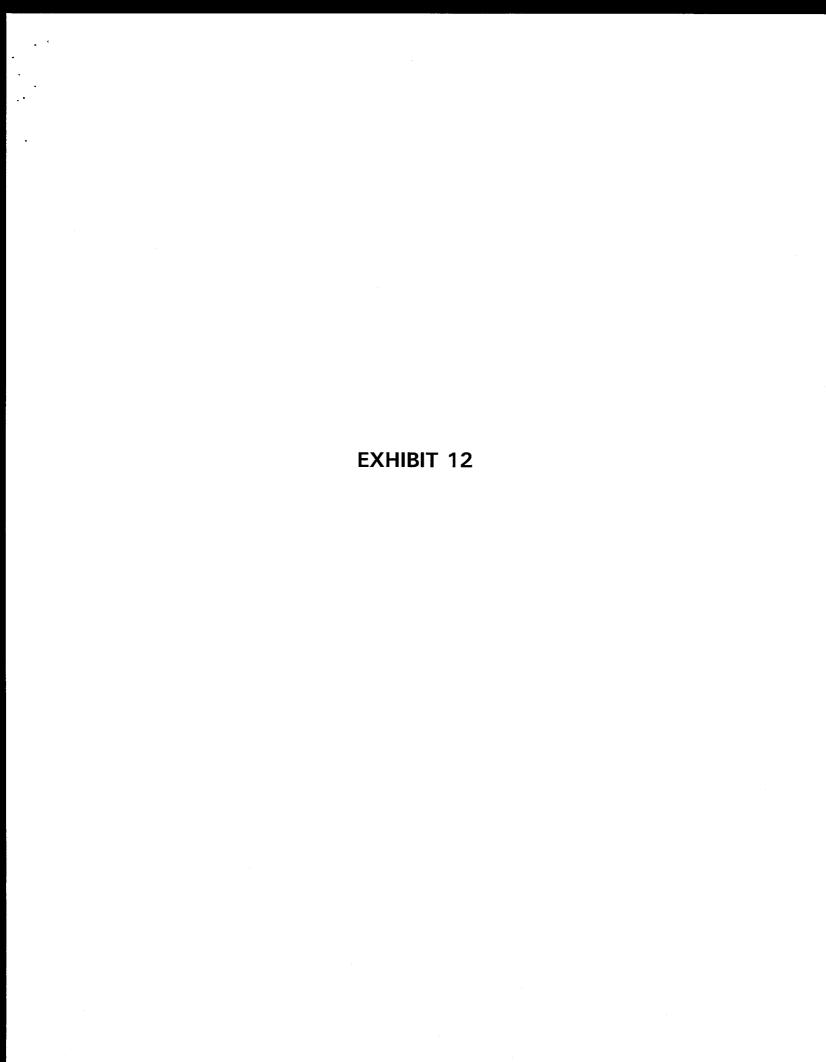
First Quarter Earnings

On April 9, Pinnacle West reported first quarter EPS of \$0.70. The results exceeded last year's EPS of \$0.64 and represent 9% quarter-over-quarter growth. The major growth driver was increased wholesale sales to the western power markets, which grew by 51% in volume over the prior-year quarter. Also contributing to earnings growth was strong utility customer growth of 3.8% and retail energy sales of 7.2%. The gains offset a onetime market gain by El Dorado, the investment subsidiary in the first quarter of 1999.

Offsetting growth was SunCor, the real estate investment unit, which reported net income of \$0.5 million this quarter compared with \$5.3 million last year. The decline was due to the timing of asset sales. In addition, the company took a \$5 million reserve in the quarter for sales to the California Power Exchange (CalPX).

Consolidated revenues grew by 92.3% to \$939 million, driven primarily by a strong increase of 103.1% in electric revenues. Consolidated EBIT grew 7% to \$135.3 million, while net income grew by 10% to \$59.5 million.

N.B.: CREDIT SUISSE FIRST BOSTON CORPORATION may have, within the last three years, served as a manager or co-manager of a public offering of securities for or makes a primary market in issues of any or all of the companies mentioned.





ELECTRIC UTILITIES

Barry Abramson, CFA +1 212 713 2516/barry.abramson@ubsw.com Brian Russo, CFA, Associate Analyst (+1 212 713 2441) UBS Warburg
RESEARCH NOTE

April 12, 2001

Rating: Strong Buy

Pinnacle West Capital (PNW-\$47.25)

Pinnacle West: 1Q 2001 Earnings Rise 14% on Strength in Wholesale Operations

Key Data		Quarterly Earning	s Per Share (fisca	l year ends Dec	cember)		
52-Wk Range	\$52-29		2000A	2001E	Prev	2002E	Prev
Eq.Mkt.Cap.(MM)	\$4,002	1Q	\$0.64	\$0.73A	\$0.92		
Sh.Out.(MM)	84.7	2Q	1.06				
Float	99%	3Q	1.37				
Inst.Hldgs.	73.2%	4Q	0.50				
Av.Dly.Vol.(K)	334	Year	\$3.56	\$4.05		\$4.00	
Curr. Div./Yield	\$1.50/3.2%	FC Cons.:	\$3.56	\$3.70		\$3.98	
Sec.Grwth.Rate	10%	P/E:	13.3x	11.7x		11.8x	
12-mo. Tgt Price	\$55.00	Revs.(MM):	NA	NA		NA	
12-mo. Ret. Pot'l	19.6%						
Convertible?	No						
		1/2 of the Phoenix ar	al supplies electricity trea; PNW also owns, I companies. PNW also	holds, and develop	s real property i	in Arizona and ma	

KEY POINTS

- PNW reported first quarter 2001 earnings per share from continuing operations of \$0.73 versus \$0.64 last year, a 14% increase. Operating results exclude an after-tax charge of \$2.8 million, or \$0.03 per share, related to the cumulative effect of a change in accounting for derivatives.
- The solid earnings performance was largely due to an increase in wholesale power marketing sales to the western
 markets at significantly higher prices, as well as higher sales and strong customer growth at Arizona Public Service's
 (APS) regulated retail business. However, poor performances at El Dorado, the company's investment subsidiary,
 and SunCor Development Company, the company's real estate subsidiary, partially offset the strength of PNW's
 wholesale marketing functions and APS.
- Although below our aggressive quarterly earnings forecast of \$0.92 per share, we are pleased with PNW's first
 quarter performance. Our estimate reflected the expected strong performance of PNW's wholesale marketing and
 trading operations; however, the decline in earnings contributions from PNW's unregulated subsidiaries El Dorado
 and SunCor Development was more than expected and overshadowed the solid results from wholesale and retail
 operations.
- Soaring demand for wholesale power in western markets and corresponding escalating power prices in the West
 (January 2001 through March 2001 Western region wholesale power prices have risen eight times over the
 corresponding period last year) translated into a 51% increase in first quarter 2001 wholesale power sales to 4.4
 million MWh from 2.9 million MWh and a 103.1% increase in electric operating revenues to \$906.5 million from
 \$446.2 million. Electric operations earned \$64.0 million in the first quarter 2001, nearly double the \$32.8 million
 earned in last year's first quarter.
- APS retail service territory exhibited customer growth of 3.8%, nearly three times the national average. As a result, retail energy sales rose 7.2% to 4.9 million MWh.
- El Dorado earned \$0.5 million in the first quarter 2001 versus \$19.1 million in the same quarter last year due to the
 quarterly write-down of several technology-related investments. With the NASDAQ market down again during the
 first quarter 2001, the standard quarterly mark-to-market accounting procedure led to a devaluation of many of these
 investments.

 SunCor Development Company reported lower net income of \$0.5 million, compared with \$5.3 million for the prioryear quarter. The difference is due primarily to the timing of large parcel sales in the prior year.

- PNW has reserved \$5 million before income taxes in the fourth quarter 2000 and an additional \$5 million before
 income taxes in the first quarter 2001 for its credit exposure to the California situation. PNW has significantly scaled
 back its retail marketing operations in California and is involved in transactions with the California Department of
 Water. Currently, the company expects no material adverse effect from the California situation.
- We are maintaining our Strong Buy rating on PNW shares with a price target of \$55 per share. Our target price is
 based upon a 14x P/E ratio on estimated 2001 EPS. We believe PNW should trade at a premium to the group given
 its aggressive regional expansion strategy in the Southwest, access to several wholesale power trading hubs in the
 West, above average service territory growth, low-cost generation and definitive restructuring plan. We are using
 normalized EPS of \$3.92, assuming that if western power markets were not impacted by the California power crisis,
 wholesale prices would be lower.

HIGHLIGHTS FROM MEETING WITH MANAGEMENT

Wednesday afternoon, PNW management met in New York with analysts and investors to discuss current operations and strategy.

PNW is well positioned to meet peak load demand for the next two years. PNW is well hedged to meet its summer peak demand for both 2001 and 2002 and intends to have excess capacity to sell into the wholesale power markets.

PNW is committed to maintaining high efficiency ratings for its generation. For year 2000, the capacity factors of its Palo Verde nuclear generating station and coal plants were 92.7% and 83.1%, respectively, versus the national average of 87.2% and 70.0%. Greater plant utilization provides PNW with excess capacity to sell into the power-hungry Western wholesale markets.

Palo Verde planned outage extended. A scheduled refueling outage at the Palo Verde Unit 1 (1,270 MW) nuclear plant has been extended by 20 days to correct a mechanical problem at the plant. The unit was shut down on April 2nd, for a 30-day refueling outage. No meaningful impact is anticipated from the extended outage, but it does create an opportunity cost of potential lost revenues from selling any excess capacity in the wholesale markets. APS owns 29.1% of the Palo Verde nuclear power plant and is also the plant's operator.

Generation capacity is expected to increase by 71% over the next five years. PNW will add 541 MW of new generation supply in 2001 and currently has over 3,300 MW of generation capacity under construction in Arizona. Existing capacity totals 3,988 MW (43% coal, 30% gas/oil, 27% nuclear). PNW's coal assets provide a competitive advantage as it allows PNW to sell the excess low-cost capacity into the wholesale market at attractive spark spreads. Going forward, the portfolio resource mix will shift more heavily towards gas as additional capacity comes on line.

Management indicated that company is on schedule to possess 4,180 MW, 5,240 MW, 5,770 MW and 6,830 MW

of generation capacity by 2001, 2002, 2003 and 2006, respectively.

PNW has plans to build a gas storage facility in Arizona. A gas storage feasibility project is underway in which PNW would build a gas storage facility of meaningful size. PNW's strategy would be to operate the facility and share the storage with others. We believe such a facility would be of significant value to PNW as well as the Western markets given the gas deliverability problems that have plagued California recently.

SunCor Development Company. Assets totaled \$456 million at year-end 2000. SunCor's primary activities include real estate development projects in the southwestern US. Commercial property management has contributed over half of total revenues.

El Dorado. The investment company's book value is currently \$10 million, down from \$21 million at year-end 2000. Investments consist of technology stocks via ownership in a venture capital fund and energy-related investments. The downtum in tech-related issues has negatively effected the value of El Dorado's investments-\$3 million or one-third of book value is publicly traded securities. It is this one-third that is subject to quarterly mark-to-market accounting.

Financial Condition. PNW is among the top utilities in terms of cash flow per share at slightly over \$8 per share. The debt ratio, which stands at 55% at year-end 2000, is down from 60% in 1995.

PNW is pursuing a regional strategy. PNW is positioning itself as a major player in the Southwest region with nearly 3,300 MW of generation capacity under construction. The company will maintain a competitive advantage over other utilities in the region with the additional capacity combined with transmission access to the entire western US.

Definitive restructuring plan in place. On September 23, 1999, the Arizona Corporation Commission (ACC) voted to approve the comprehensive regulatory settlement

that had been proposed by APS in May 1999. The settlement includes the following provisions:

- APS will form a corporate affiliate or affiliates and transfer at book value its generation assets and competitive services. That transfer must take place no later than December 31, 2002.
- APS would reduce rates for small customers through a series of annual reductions of 1.5% beginning July 1, 1999, through July 1, 2003, for a total of 7.5%. For larger customers (with loads of 3 MW and up), the rate cuts would total 5% through 2002.
- Unbundled rate for distribution service would also be subject to rate reductions that vary by class of customer.
- There would be a moratorium on retail price changes until July 1, 2004, except for the above mentioned price changes.

Additional information available upon request.

- APS would be permitted to defer for later recovery costs of complying with the ACC's competition rules, including costs associated with being the provider of last resort.
- Retail access began September 24, 1999, and was phased in under a schedule that would allow 100% of retail customers to choose their power supplier by January 1, 2001.
- APS was allowed to recover \$350 million of stranded costs through a competitive transition charge that will remain in effect through December 31, 2004. APS had demonstrated that its allowable stranded costs were at least \$533 million, and therefore, the settlement disallowed \$183 million in costs.

RISKS

PNW's earnings can be impacted by volatility in the wholesale power markets, by the price of gas and by fluctuations in weather.

UBS Warburg LLC, 1285 Avenue of the Americas, New York, NY 10019 Phone: +1-212-713-2000

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Kit Konolige -1 (1)212 761 6237 Kit.Konolige@morganstanley.com David Reynolds +1 (1)212 761 6078

David.Reynolds@morganstanley.com

Analysis of Sales/Earnings

April 16, 2001

On The High Road To California

OUTPERFORM Price (April 11, 2001): \$47.25 Price Target: \$52 52-Week Range: \$52.69 - 29.50

WHAT'S CHANGED

Earnings (2001): From \$3.70 to \$3.75

- PNW another SW utility winning from CA
 Pinnacle opens the 1Q earnings season with above consensus numbers, joining UNS and PNM as Desert Southwest utilities benefiting from West Coast pricing.
- Generation Spin Down The Event To Watch For
 Management would like to get the asset separation done before
 ACC changes in 2002. Good margins on utility load and
 leverage to wholesale markets should mean higher gross
 margins.
- 1Q comes in at \$0.73. Raising 2001E to \$3.75, maintaining 2002E. Power sales revenue doubled, more than offsetting declines at the real estate (SunCor) and investment (Eldorado) unit.

Price: Abs. and Rel. To Market & industry



Company Description

Pinnacle West is a holding company for a diverse group of subsidiaries. The company is the parent of Arizona Public Service, that state's largest electric utility. Other subsidiaries are involved in real estate and venture capital inventments, including part ownership of the Phoenix Suns.

FY ending Dec 31:	2000A	2001E	2002E	2003E
EPS (\$)	3.56	3.75	4.10	_
Prior EPS Ests. (\$)	_	3.70	_	-
Consensus EPS Ests. (\$)	_	_	-	-
CEPS (\$)	8.63	8.85	8.89	-
P/E	13.3	12.6	11.5	_
P/E Rel. to (local index)	-	-	_	-
PICE	5.5	5.3	5.3	-
Price/Book	1.7	1.5	1,4	-
EV/EBITDA	-	·-	_	-
Yield (%)	3.0	3.2	3.4	0.0
Market Cap (\$ m)	4,003	Q'triy 2000A	2001E	2002E

Market Cap (\$ m) Enterprise Value (\$ m)	4,003 6,297.1	Q'trly EP\$	2000A actual	200 curr	1E prior	20 curr	02E prior
Debl/Cap (12/00) (%)	46.9	Q1	0.64	NA	_	NA	-
Return on Equity (12/00) (%)	13.7	Q2	1.06	NA	-	NA	-
L-T EPS Grth ('yy - 'yy) (%)	10.0	Q3	1.37	NA	-	NA	-
P/E to Growth	1.33	Q4	0.50	NA		NA	
Shares Outstanding (m)	84.7						

E = Morgan Stanley Dean Witter Research Estimate

On The High Road To California

Summary and Investment Conclusion

PNW opened the IQ earnings season on what we expect will be a steady round of good notes. Earnings came in at \$0.73 vs. \$0.64 in the year ago quarter - an increase of 14%.

Like UNS and PNM – who have already pre-announced upside to their 1Q EPS – PNW had very strong results from the electric business, with a near double in power sales. This made up for year-over-year declines at the real estate (SunCor: -\$4.8 million) and investment (Eldorado: -\$18.6 million) units.

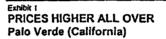
We met with management last week following analyst meetings in New York and Boston and came away still positive on what we consider to be a relatively undervalued stock - 12.6X our 2001E vs. 13.4X for our group of upstream oriented integrated utilities - with a 10% growth rate.

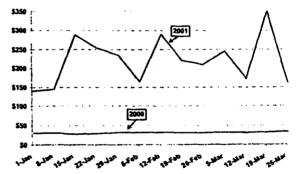
Strategically, management is focused on completing a spin down of the utility generating assets – roughly 4,000 MW of coat, gas/oil, and nuclear capacity – to an unregulated unit. The goal is to get the deal done before changes at the ACC, the state regulators, in 2002.

With decent margins on native load and leverage to the West Coast markets a separation from the regulatory overhang should bring better margins.

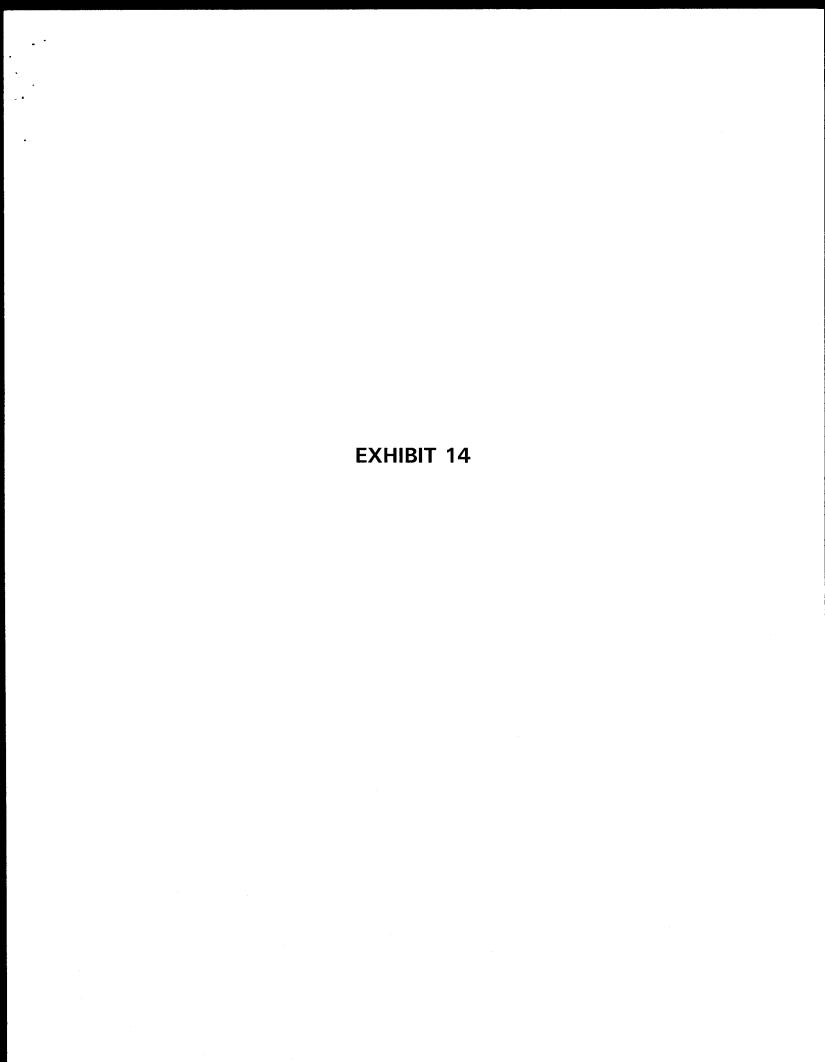
We are bumping up our 2001E from \$3.70 to \$3.75 based on a strong 1Q. Trailing twelve-month EPS stands at \$3.65. We are maintaining Outperform rating.

The leverage is all to California – or more specifically to the Palo Verde trading hub where prices have soared on the back of shortages in Southern CA. PNW is a net seller during most times of the year – except for 3Q.





Source: Morgan Stanley Commodities Group



03:43am EDT 22-065-07 Lehman Brothers (Ford, CFA, Daniel 1 212 526 0836) PNW Pinnacle West Capital: A Big Quarter (part 1 of 2)

PRICE: (USD 40.24)

EPS	(FY	Dec)
4.4		

EPS	(FY D	ec)								
	2000		2001				2002		% Ch	ange
	Actual	old	New	St.	Est.	Old	New	St. Est.	2001	2002
1Q										
2Q										
3 Q							•			
4 Q										
	3.56						4.10			
	11.3x		9.8x				9.8x			
Marke	et Data						Financ	ial Summar	. y	
Marke	et Cap						Revenue		_	
Share	s Outsta	nding (m))				Five-Ye	ar EPS CAC	3R	
Float							Return	on Equity		
	dend Yiel	d			4	.00	Current			28.00
	ertible					No		Capital		51.0
52 wk	c Range				51 -	38		ure(s)		None
Ratir	ng			rget			•			
New.	3 - Mark									
	3 - Mark			ld:	3.00					
·	JACEN	oc lerro.	02							

INVESTMENT CONCLUSION :

- * PNW reported a strong Q3 of \$1.91 driven by power marketing and trading results. We maintain our Market Perform rating as the stock looks fairly valued given the upcoming regulatory process with the ACC.

 SUMMARY:
- * PNW's utility (APS) introduced a regulatory proposal, which will adjust AZ competition rules and could provide EPS upside if approved as proposed. PNW is seeking approval by year-end but AZ politics may lengthen.
- * We are raising our 2001 estimate to \$4.10 from \$3.63 to reflect a strong 3Q and \$0.67 in Q4. Our 2002 estimate moves to \$4.10 from \$3.93 to reflect our best estimate of the financial implications of the regulatory proposal. We maintain our MP rating as the Arizona regulation has rarely been smooth sailing.

PNW reported very strong third quarter results of \$1.91 versus \$1.37 in Q32000. The EPS strength and surprise was almost entirely driven by the historically unprofitable (\$0.03 loss in 2000) power marketing and trading activities. The quarterly earnings breakdown was as follows: 1) the utility (APS) EPS fell to \$1.27 from \$1.46 in the year-ago period as a result of higher O&M and replacement purchased power costs; 2) PW Energy contributed \$0.13 versus \$-0.01 as West Phoenix 4 and additional peaking capacity were on-line; 3) Energy Services loss rose to \$0.04 from breakeven last year; 4) El Dorado losses of \$0.11 in 3Q2000 dropped off as the investment portfolio has largely been written down; and 5) Holding company driven by Power marketing and trading (PWMT) kicked in \$0.50 versus \$0 in the year ago

period.

The primary driver of EPS growth in the quarter came from PWMT and wholesale activities break down as follows: 1) \$0.37 from structured trading activities; 2) \$0.23 from power marketing and trading and wholesale activity; 3) \$0.12 of ongoing FAS 133 adjustment. The structured contracts included electricity, transmission and natural gas both inside and outside of Arizona with terms ranging from 1-7 years. PNW indicated the structured trading activity has been largely hedged and therefore the \$0.37 of profit should be protected as booked. While PNW indicated they continue to see opportunities in the PWMT and wholesale areas, CEO Bill Post indicated 2001 EPS results may be tough to improve upon in 2002.

As a result of the strong 3Q EPS driven by PWMT, we are raising our 2001 estimate to \$4.10. As the sustainability of earnings from PWMT is difficult to gauge, we are not including a repeat performance in our upward revised 2002 estimate of \$4.10 from \$3.93. Our revised 2002 estimate reflects our assumption that PW Energy plants coming on line will realize a blended \$40/mwh under a PPA to APS (as part of a new regulatory agreement) or realized on the open market.

Asset Transfer Broadens Out

Late Thursday night, APS filed a regulatory proposal with the Arizona Corporation Commission (ACC). The proposal is an effort to achieve the successful transfer of APS utility generation to PW Energy and clarify elements of the 1999 regulatory agreement and competition rules. APS is not seeking to alter the terms of the 1999 regulatory agreement, but is seeking a partial variance to the ACC competition rules.

The proposal includes the following major elements:

• The restructuring of the competitive bidding for standard offer generation requirements.

APS would like to restructure the requirement to procure 50% of standard offer requirements from the competitive market during 2003. In its place APS beginning in 2003 proposes to acquire 270 MW of APS standard offer requirements on the open market through a competitive bidding process. This competitive bid obligation would be increased by an additional 270 MW each year through 2008 (representing approximately 23% of estimated 2008 peak load).

* The establishment of a PPA between PW Energy/PWMT and APS

PNW is proposing a long-term full requirements PPA that has 3 optional renewal periods through 2015 with the potential extension to 2030. The PPA would go into effect upon approval and therefore the contract rate prior to July 2004 would need to fit within existing rates. Beyond July 2004, the contract pricing could be adjusted to reflect changes in commodity costs as was envisioned with the reestablishment of a fuel clause in the 1999 agreement. The PPA would contain a fixed component (based on a 50/50 capital structure and 11.25% ROE/7.5% debt cost) and variable component for fuel/pp costs. Finally, the agreement includes a provision that PWMT would be able to remarket excess power not demanded by APS retail and keep 75% of the profits with the balance going to APS customers.

The PPA would take effect on the latest of the following events: 1) transfer of non-nuclear generating assets from APS to PWEC, presently planned to take place by the end of 2001; 2) ACC approval of the variance and the PPA; and 3) FERC acceptance of the PPA and the companion agreement between APS and PWEC.

Who Gets What under the Proposal

SPS

The proposal is being put forth as an attempt to provide APS customers price stability/service reliability while a competitive market slowly develops. This proposal would appear to protect APS and Arizona customers from a repeat of California, but may come at the cost of developing a viable competitive market.

PW Energy and PWMT

The proposal as envisioned appears favorable for PW Energy and PWMT as it would provide price stability and marketing opportunities to the companies existing MWs and MWs under construction. Specifically, the PPA pricing would appear to be an attractive price for new gas fired generation that could produce healthy ROE's if true equity invested is more in line with 25%-35% of capital. The 70/30 split for PWMT could offer additional upside with potentially limited downside as the capacity component of the contract appears quite thick and would place PWMT downside risk below \$17.40/mwhr.

The only reference price in the proposal is a \$48/mwhr price in 2004, which reflects \$17.40/mwhr of variable fuel cost and by deduction \$30.60/mwhr of fixed or capacity cost. Pulling this price backwards indicates PW Energy would realize a sale price to APS at \$47/mwhr and \$47.65/mwhr in 2002 and 2003.

	2002	2003	2004
MWs	3572	5512	. 5777
fixed payment millions \$	424.8	759.6	805.44
\$/kw year	\$118.92	\$137.81	\$139.42
mwhrs under 52% cap factor	16274994	25114157	26321569
total capacity in mwhrs	31290720	48285120	50606520
cap factor	52.0%	52.0%	52.0%
fixed /mwhr	\$26.10	\$30.25	\$30.60
variable mwhr	\$21.00	\$17.40	\$17.40
Total cost/mwhr	\$47.10	\$47.65	\$48.00

Based on our estimate of the cost of supplying new gas fired generation, we believe the contract price may be downward negotiated as it moves through the approval process. We believe a \$40/mwhr price (see below) for the new gas fired generation could ultimately be the result and have incorporated this in our estimates.

Fuel	\$ 17.50
O&M	\$ 3.00
Prop tax	\$ 1.00
Depr	\$ 3.26
Capital Return	\$ 13.41
Total	\$ 38.17

The Arizona Corporation Commission

The proposal would provide an opportunity for the ACC to avoid a California repeat without spending a lot of effort to restructure the current

competition rules as they stand. The apparent trade-off would appear to be delay of a competitive market and any potential price decreases resulting from competitive generators overbuilding in the transmission constrained Arizona market.

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EON



ML++ML++ML

11:13am EDT 17-Apr-01 Merrill Lynch (S.Fleishman/S.Brothwell) PNW PNW.N PINNACLE WEST:Managing for Tomorrow

ML++ML++ML

Merrill Lynch Global Securities Research
PINNACLE WEST CAPITAL CORP (PNW/NYSE)
Managing for Tomorrow
Steven I. Fleishman (1) 212 449-0926

Sam Brothwell (1) 212 449-9703

ACCUMULATE

Long Term: BUY

Reason for Report: Q1 Earnings Review; Raising 2001E and 2002E

Highlights:

- O Ql earnings of \$0.73 were as expected and grew 9% versus Ql 2000. Continued strength in the electric business more than offset the absence of portfolio gains at El Dorado.
- o PNW continues to capitalize on its access to the high-priced and volatile Western power markets. Outlook is still on the upside with summer exposure hedged this year and next.
- o We are raising our 2001E to \$3.75 from \$3.60 and taking our 2002E up to \$4.15 from \$3.85. These changes reflect ongoing tight market conditions and the benefits of non-regulated generation expansions (mainly in 2002E).
- O Generation investment remains on course with the major Redhawk 1 & 2 project (1,060 MW) due on line for summer 2002.
- o Exposure to CA continues to be limited with PNW having pulled back from the market late last year. Current CA reserves total \$10mn.
- o Management plans to ask for an accelerated (2001 vs. 2002) transfer of generation assets to PWE in return for contracts with the utility.
- o With a solid team management team taking a prudent long-term market view, PNW is one of our core midcap utility holdings. Revised price objective is \$55 at 13-14x our 2002E.

Price: 12 Month Price Objective:	\$4 \$5	9.25 5	
Estimates (Dec)	2000A	2001E	2002E
EPS:	\$3.56	\$3.75	\$4.15
P/E:	13.8x	13.1x	11.9x
EPS Change (YoY):		5.3%	10.7%
Consensus EPS:		\$3.77	\$4.05
(First Call: 16-Apr-2001)			
Q1 EPS (Mar):	\$0.64	\$0.73	
Cash Flow/Share:	\$8.47	\$8.67	\$8.98
Price/Cash Flow:	5.8x	5.7x	5.5x
Dividend Rate:	\$1.50	\$1.60	\$1.70
Dividend Yield:	3.0%	3.2%	3.5%
Opinion & Financial Data			

Investment Opinion: B-2-1-7

Mkt. Value / Shares Outstanding (mn): \$4,176.4 / 84.8

Book Value/Share (Dec-2000): \$28.09 Price/Book Ratio: 1.7x

Price/Book Ratio: 1.7x ROE 2001E Average: 14.9% LT Liability % of Capital: 45.1% Est. 5 Year EPS Growth: 8.0% Next 5 Year Dividend Growth: 8.0%

Stock Data

52-Week Range: \$52.69-\$29.50 Symbol / Exchange: PNW / NYSE Options: Pacific

Institutional Ownership-Vickers: 74.3%
Brokers Covering (First Call): 11

For full investment opinion definitions, see footnotes.

Earnings Review
First Quarter 2001 - Reported \$0.70 vs. \$0.64 per share; Operating \$0.73 vs. \$0.64 per share.

Adjustments: 2001 - \$0.03/share charge for change in accounting for derivatives (FAS 133).

12 Months Ended March 2001 - Reported \$3.62 vs. \$2.25 per share; Operating \$3.65 vs. \$3.45 per share.

Adjustments: 2001 - As above; 2000 - \$1.65/share Q3 1999 regulatory disallowance offset by \$0.45 Merabank tax credit.

Another Strong Quarter

PNW reported Q1 results earlier than expected to coincide with its analyst presentations last week. The result of \$0.73 was in line with expectations showing solid 9% growth over Q1 2000 which we described at the time as a "blow-out" quarter. The main driver was the electricity business which almost doubled (\$0.75 vs. \$0.39) to more than offset the absence of last year's one-time portfolio gains at El Dorado (\$0.01 vs. \$0.22). Arizona Public Service (APS) saw retail energy sales volume grow by 7.2% on customer growth of 3.8%. Meanwhile, wholesale power sales continued to grow strongly showing a 51% increase versus Q1 2000, above the 40% 12-month growth rate reached at year-end. In terms of profits, electricity EBITDA came in at \$265mm, up 26% versus \$210mm in Q1 2000. Fuel and purchased power costs increased sharply (\$516mm vs. \$125mm) but were more than offset by higher electricity revenues (\$906mm vs. \$446mm).

On the real estate side revenues dropped by 23% with net income also down sharply (\$0.01 vs. \$0.06) reflecting lumpy large parcel sales from 1Q 2000. Higher interest expenses shaved \$0.04 from earnings while increased capitalized interest was a \$0.08 boost reflecting the ramp-up in new generation investments.

CA: A Regulatory Opportunity?

On April 5, the Arizona Court of Appeals rejected the remaining consumer appeal against APS's 1999 Settlement Agreement. The group which filed the appeal has until May 7 to petition the state supreme court for review of the Court of Appeals' decision.

At their meeting, PNW indicated that they plan to take a new proposal to AZ regulators around the middle of this year. The proposal would involve accelerating (from 2002 into 2001) the transfer of assets to PWE, the non-regulated generation business. In return, PWE would commit some of this capacity back to the utility under long-term contracts. By doing this now, PNW clearly hopes to pre-empt upcoming (2002) political and regulatory changes and to reduce the likelihood of future backlash against current deregulation plans.

Considering current price volatility in western power markets, PNW's proposal may well look attractive to regulators concerned to protect AZ's enviable recent record of retail price reductions. This regulatory strategy seems prudent, particularly in view of management's cautious (and non-consensus) view that current pricing spikes in western power markets will ease sooner than generally expected.

2001/02 Summer Hedges In Place

PNW has hedged forward its summer peak requirements for both 2001 and 2002. Peak demand is projected around 6,000 MW this summer and is covered with a 14% reserve margin in all but 30-40 hours. As in summer 2000, short-term hedges coupled with long-term purchase contracts will leave PNW ample excess energy to sell into a tight wholesale market.

Generation Project Update

PNW 's generation investment program remains on course with PWE planning to add up to 2,800 MW of new capacity between 2001 and 2006. The 120 MW West Phoenix plant upgrade begins testing this month and is expected to be in service by June. For 2002, the 1,060 MW Redhawk 1 & 2 project is expected to come on line between June and July. Thereafter, the remaining 530 MW upgrade of West Phoenix is scheduled for completion in June 2003.

Earnings and Stock Outlook

We are raising our 2001E to \$3.75 from \$3.60 and taking our 2002E up to \$4.15 from our initial estimate of \$3.85. With forward prices reflecting the tight Western market supply situation, we believe PNW's wholesale operations should continue to thrive while 2002 will see the first major contributions from the new generation expansion. Meanwhile, growth at the utility continues to be above average while the reg. asset amortization schedule calls for decreases both this year (\$8mn) and next (\$18mn).

PNW continues to have most of what we like in a utility: top tier (8-10%) EPS growth potential, a high growth franchise market, attractive generating assets that have been deregulated, and no return caps in its rate deal. While management has a less optimistic market view than consensus, it has a strong shareholder-oriented track record and is managing the business prudently with a long-term view. Our new price objective is \$55 at 13-14x our 2001E. Copyright 2001 Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith Incorporated (MLPF&S). All rights reserved. Any unauthorized use or disclosure is prohibited. This report has been prepared and issued by MLPF&S and/or one of its affiliates and has been approved for publication in the United Kingdom by Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith Limited, which is regulated by SFA; has been considered and distributed in Australia by Merrill Lynch Equities (Australia) Limited (ACN 006 276 795), a licensed securities dealer under the Australian Corporations Law; is distributed in Hong Kong by Merrill Lynch (Asia Pacific) Ltd, which is regulated by the Hong Kong SFC; and is distributed in Singapore by Merrill Lynch International Bank Ltd (Merchant Bank) and Merrill Lynch (Singapore) Pte Ltd, which are regulated by the Monetary Authority of Singapore. The information herein was obtained from various sources; we do not guarantee its accuracy or completeness. Additional information available. Neither the information nor any opinion expressed constitutes an offer, or an invitation to make an offer, to buy or sell any securities or any options, futures or other derivatives related to such securities ("related investments"). MLPF&S and its affiliates may trade for their own accounts as odd-lot dealer, market maker, block positioner, specialist and/or arbitrageur in any securities of this issuer(s) or in related investments, and may be on the opposite side of public orders. MLPF&S, its affiliates, directors, officers, employees and employee benefit programs may have a long or short position in any securities of this issuer(s) or in related investments. MLPF&S or its affiliates may from time to time perform investment banking or other